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**TODAY IN Arab news**

**Kingdom's efforts lauded**  
Hani Al-Hassan, a member of the Central Committee of the Palestine Liberation Movement, Fatah, and political adviser to Yasser Arafat, chairman of the PLO, says that as a result of Saudi Arabia's efforts, Palestinians staying in Lebanon are about to obtain their civic rights. — Page 2

**China spurns U.S. arms**  
China rules out all possibility of its being supplied arms by the United States while the current state of relations between the two countries, aggravated by the Taiwan issue, continued. — Page 5

**Kentucky rally**  
Kentucky and Louisville will meet on a basketball court for the first time in 24 years as they advanced to the National College Athletics Association Midwest regional final. — Page 9

**U.S. steel**  
The International Trade Commission has ruled that European and Japanese exports of special steel were damaging American steel industry and it would ask President Reagan to impose safeguard measures. — Page 14

**Nicaragua fighting**  
The Nicaragua government claims to have repulsed an attack by Honduran soldiers. It says the Hondurans have entered Nicaragua to join rebel forces trying to topple the government. — Page 20

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## Experts blast Reagan's N-defense plan

### Dubbed dangerous and vulnerable

WASHINGTON, March 25 (Agencies) — President Reagan's proposal for countering any Soviet nuclear strike with space-based weapons has been attacked by some leading U.S. scientists and European commentators as unworkable and dangerous.

Professor Henry Kendall, chairman of the Union of Concerned Scientists, said he doubted whether the Reagan proposal was scientifically feasible.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) physics professor told Reuters: "Such a system would be quite vulnerable to Soviet countermeasures." But senior officials told reporters that new technology in lasers, microwaves and projectile beams made an anti-ballistic missile (ABM) system with defensive weapons deployed in space quite feasible.

Reagan unveiled the proposal in a controversial televised speech Wednesday, saying development of such a futuristic system would reduce chances of nuclear war by the year 2000.

The proposal has aroused strong reactions and Democratic Sen. Edward Kennedy accused the president of "red scare tactics" and "reckless war schemes." An ABM plan of the type Reagan proposed was seriously questioned by top arms experts of his own administration several months ago.

Conservative fund raiser Richard Viguerie and prominent conservative groups, including one called "High Frontier" strongly backed Reagan's proposal. "High Frontier" spokesman Robert Richardson, a

retired army general, told Reuters: "We're pleased. It is technologically feasible and militarily sound."

Various groups of the so-called New Right, which helped get Reagan elected, had been lobbying the White House for months, urging it to come out strongly for an advanced ABM system in space, a plan they dubbed "the high frontier."

But Dr. Kendall said that the space-borne lasers or particle beam ray-guns, which in theory could home in on and destroy Soviet missiles thousands of miles away, would be housed in satellites that were quite vulnerable to attack.

The communications links between surveillance satellites that would detect Soviet missile launchers and in theory alert U.S. laser-armed battle platforms would also be quite vulnerable. He said the electromagnetic pulse (EMP) emitted by even a small Soviet nuclear weapon exploded in space could devastate electrical equipment thousands of miles away.

One U.S. official told Reuters the Pentagon was next year planning to test a "pointing and tracking" system for a space-based laser that might be used against attacking Soviet missiles.

The Reagan plan won a guarded welcome from the British government for what a spokesman called its "indication of American determination to remain wholly effective." But a senior British defense analyst said: "We are all of us astounded."

West German Defense Minister Manfred Woerner said the idea of moving from nuclear deterrence toward a purely defensive system "would be nuclear moral improvement — to simply neutralize a danger rather than counter a threat."

But in a comment echoed in editorials in West European newspapers, Woerner added: "This is a program for the next century."

## Lebanon sticks to its guns

BEIRUT, March 25 (Agencies) — Lebanon reiterated its rejection of Israel's security demands Friday as U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib shuttled back to this Mediterranean nation in an attempt to break the deadlock in troop withdrawal negotiations.

Meanwhile, the Lebanese government of President Amin Gemayel was reported to have terminated the mandate of the all-Syrian Arab deterrent force in Lebanon by March 31. The government move was reported by the Beirut newspaper *As-Safir* as Lebanon and Israel held the 24th round of their troop withdrawal talks under U.S. sponsorship in the Israeli Mediterranean resort of Netanya. There was no immediate confirmation of the report from the Lebanese or Syrian governments.

Habib made no statement as his U.S. Air Force jet landed at Beirut International Airport, which is guarded by American Marines of Lebanon's multinational peacekeeping force.

The troubleshooter is trying to break an Israeli-Lebanese deadlock over security arrangements in southern Lebanon.

Habib flew in from Israel and immediately held a short meeting with Foreign Minister Elie Salem. Official sources said the two



**Habib** would hold extensive talks Friday night. Salem told reporters Thursday night that "we have given everything Lebanon can give" on the security arrangements which Israel wants in South Lebanon to prevent the return there of Palestinian Commandos. "We cannot give any more on the security arrangements without prejudicing Lebanon's sovereignty," he added.

Israel has been demanding to keep troops in South Lebanon at observation posts, but Lebanon has refused. There is also disagreement over the future of an Israeli-backed militia force in the area.

Salem said he thought an agreement with Israel was possible on the basis of ideas discussed by Lebanese and Israeli teams in Washington last week. But if nothing was achieved within two weeks, Lebanon would have to reassess its approach, he added.

An Israeli spokesman in Netanya said the Lebanese delegation had made clear that Lebanon was not setting any formal deadline for the negotiations. Salem himself said the talks would not be broken off.

## Andropov dispels rumors of illness

MOSCOW, March 25 (AFP) — Soviet Communist Party Secretary Yuri Andropov appeared to have cut short rumors that he was in poor health Friday by meeting with Daniel Ortega, a member of the Sandinista government in Nicaragua.

The Soviet news agency Tass mentioned the talks but did not refer to the published reports that Andropov was undergoing treatment for heart and kidney ailments.

However, despite the meeting with Ortega, a leader of the Sandinista National Liberation Front, Soviet sources did not rule out the possibility that Andropov had been under medical treatment.

The rumors of Andropov's illness began last week when the usual communiqué on the weekly Politburo meetings was not published. They continued on Tuesday when Defense Minister Dmitri Ustinov cut short a visit to Hungary.

They were further fueled by the appointment Wednesday of Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko as first deputy prime minister.

## Test-tube twins born

MANHASSET, New York, March 25 (R) — America's first test-tube twins — a boy and a girl — were born Wednesday by Caesarean section and are both doing well, doctors said Thursday.

Mrs. Nancy Tilton gave birth to twins Heather and Todd at North Shore University Hospital after a full-term pregnancy.

The world's first test-tube twins were born in Australia in 1981.

## Unfolds 10-point plan

### France acts to put economy on the rails

PARIS, March 25 (R) — France's reshuffled government announced a package of tough measures Friday to restore the country's financial standing, including compulsory savings, new taxes and a spending limit for foreign travel.

News of the 10-point package ended two weeks of political and economic uncertainty set off by local electoral losses for the ruling left-wing parties and intensified by a monetary crisis that led to a devaluation of the franc.

The measures represent a make-or-break attempt by President Francois Mitterrand to put France's economic house in order and avoid what would be the fourth devaluation of his 22-month-old administration, political analysts said.

The Socialist president set the tone in an austere television address Wednesday in which he called for national effort to curb inflation and cut the trade deficit, at \$12 billion in 1982, to zero by the end of next year.

Among the measures aimed at curbing consumer demand and diverting funds to investment is a compulsory loan to the state by wage-earners. The loan will take the form of a levy in May representing 10 percent of total income tax due to be paid this year.

With other measures, the forced loan, which affects all but the lowest wage-earners and is repayable in three years, is expected to raise a further 20 billion francs (\$2.7 billion) in government revenue this year, government spokesman Max Gallo said.

The other move expected to provoke

strong public reaction was a decision to limit to 2,000 francs (\$275) the amount any adult may spend on holiday abroad each year.

To supervise the rule, currency transactions will be entered in new "tourist exchange" books and extensive checks will be carried out at the frontiers, officials said.

This was presaged in a call by Mitterrand in his television speech to "buy French" and take holidays in France where possible.

The packages, completed Friday by the new 15-member economy-orientated cabinet, included measures to reduce by one-sixth France's expected 120 billion francs (\$160 billion) budget deficit this year.

A special tax on crude oil will be imposed in April to compensate for its price drop on world markets.

Measures to fill a gaping deficit in the separately administered social security budget include a special levy of one percent on income tax, and the acceleration of plans to impose new tax on tobacco.

Balancing the huge social security budget is one of the most sensitive tasks facing the Socialist government, which boosted welfare benefits as part of its costly reform program after its election in 1981.

## Labor retains Darlington seat

LONDON, March 25 (R) — An important by-election victory boosted battered morale in Britain's opposition Labor Party Friday but a nationwide opinion poll showed the Conservative government was still favored to win re-election.

Labor won Darlington in northeast England with an increased majority, giving a much-needed fillip to Michael Foot, whose leadership of the party had been called into question by poor performance in recent polls.

The election of his candidate, college administrator Oswald O'Brien, 54, was seen as securing Foot's position in the run-up to a general election which Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher must call by May, 1984.

The Conservatives were consoled with second place, blunting the drive of the newly resurgent Liberal-Social Democratic alliance, which began the campaign as favorite but finished a poor third.

The result, extrapolated nationally, would give the Conservatives 320 places in the new 650-seat parliament, short of an overall majority. But the latest public opinion poll, by Marplan in the *Guardian* Friday, gave the

government a lead of 13.5 percentage points over Labor.

Political analysts said Mrs. Thatcher was certain to study the poll and the Darlington result closely to help her decide when to call an election.

She is statutorily entitled to wait until May 1984 and is on record as saying she would not even consider the date until she was in the fifth year of her term, beginning this May.

Most politicians and analysts believed the Darlington result was likely to reduce the temptation for her to call an election in June, the earliest likely date.

Political sources said Mrs. Thatcher had told her friends she would call an early poll only if the political signs were looking good and the economic prospects seemed bad.

But many politicians, weighing such factors as the opinion polls, disarray in the Labor Party, the alliance's fortunes, and the performance of the economy, have suggested this June as the likely date if Mrs. Thatcher wants to spring a surprise, with October as the next most likely time.

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## Kingdom's efforts benefit Palestinians in Lebanon

KUWAIT, March 25 (Agencies) — As a result of Saudi Arabia's efforts, Palestinians staying in Lebanon are about to obtain their civic rights, according to Hani Al-Hassan, a member of the Central Committee of the Palestine Liberation Movement Fatah, and political adviser to Yasser Arafat, the chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Hassan told reporters here Thursday that an agreement had been reached with the Lebanese government on the travel documents held by Palestinians residing in Lebanon. Under the agreement, the Lebanese government will renew such documents for Palestinians whose names are registered in the official records of both the Lebanese government and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA). Palestinians legally residing in Lebanon will also be granted a stay permit and the right to move freely and work in that country. In addition, Hassan said, a solution will be found for Palestinians whose names do not appear in the government's official records.

Hassan called for more coordination between Jordan and the Palestinians, because,

he said, the next Israeli plot is directed at the Jordanians and the Palestinians altogether. He warned against the consequences of an eventual suspension of such coordination or abandonment of the joint political settlement.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia's permanent representative at the United Nations, Jaafar Al-Laqqani, said that the entire world appreciated and respected the Kingdom's big efforts to help the Palestinians recover their legitimate rights. He told *Ola* Friday that the Security Council's recent decision to call for the withdrawal of all non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon was addressed to Israel, in the first place. The Arab Deterrent Forces, he added, were there with the unambiguous approval of the Lebanese government.

Laqqani said the problem was that Israel was not merely trying to continue occupying Lebanon and draining its resources. "Israel's mad designs went much beyond that, to such an extent that it constituted and overt threat to humanity at large," he said. He added that the whole world was aware of the fact that if such Israeli obduracy was to continue, a valuable chance for peace will be lost.

## Indian team here to study joint ventures

By Suresh Shah  
Arab News Staff

JEDDAH, March 25 — A multi-disciplinary high-level team from Birla Group of Industries, India's premier industrial house, has arrived here for a ten-day visit to the Kingdom to explore prospects of joint ventures in industries and services.

The team includes M.D. Khurana, general manager of the group's overseas operations; R.L. Maheshwari, paper project division; Brig. Bhattacharyya, management services; B.S. Girda, chemical division; V.M. Manglik, agricultural division; S.K. Singhal, industrial division; A.K. Paul, steel and allied industries division; and S. Das, head of Calcutta Hospital.

The team will be in Jeddah until March 28, in Riyadh until March 29, and in Dammam from March 30 to April 2. They will meet Saudi Arabian industrialists and discuss possibilities of cooperation in various industrial activities and management services, according to Sayeed Ahmad Khan, second commercial secretary at the Indian Embassy here.

The Birla group, covering practically the entire range of industrial and commercial activities in India, is currently dealing with ferrous and non-ferrous metals; textiles and flax; manmade fibers; jute textiles; woollens; plantations; dairy and food products; vanaspathi ghee; sugar; cement; hand tools; agricultural machinery and industrial equipment; chemicals; fertilizers, papers, electrical items, plastics, refrigeration, shipping, electricity generation, railway wagons; and industrial and management consultancy.

Birla's engineering units produce a large variety of equipment and machinery, including railway wagons, textiles, cement and sugar plant machinery, boilers, cranes, steel castings, electrical equipment, cable, pipelines for water, gas and petroleum.

The group has been operating for over 100 years. It has carried out projects independently and also joint ventures in West Germany, Britain, South Korea, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, Nepal, Nigeria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Kenya and Uganda.

## BRIEFS

### Killer executed

ABHA — Hazam ibn Faraj ibn Musmaki Al-Qahdani was executed in Aia Qahdan, Asir, Friday afternoon after being convicted of killing A'id ibn Hawi Dahan, the Ministry of Interior said.

### Holy Qur'an contest ends

MAKKAH (SPA) — The Fifth International Holy Qur'an Competition, organized by the Ministry of Pilgrimage and Religious Endowments, ended here Thursday night. In a conclusion speech, Dr. Hassan Bajoudah, who chaired the panel of judges, said about 200 candidates took part in the ten-day competition.

### Jizan expressway

JEDDAH — Work is in full swing on a new SR140 million expressway in Jizan. *Al-Jazirah* reported Friday. Construction works are proceeding day and night to complete the 104-kilometer highway which has a width of 35 meters and will link together hundreds of cities, villages and rural complexes.

## Concludes one-week trip to Kingdom

## British group seeking to woo Arab tourists

By K.S. Ramkumar  
Arab News Staff

JEDDAH, March 25 — Airports can be confusing places at the best of times. In a foreign country with the extra problem of an unfamiliar language to contend with, they can be even more bewildering.

That's why British Airways introduced MEVS — Middle East Visitors Service — at London's Heathrow Airport. "It's free and it's exclusive to passengers who fly British Airways. And it'll help you relax and enjoy traveling just like you used to," according to MEVS General Manager Gordon A. Almond.

Almond and Michael Jenner, executive of the Middle East and Africa Department of the British Tourist Authority, who left the city Friday for Dubai after a week-long tour of the Kingdom giving audiovisual presentations to promote Britain as a tourist destination for the travelers from the Middle East, especially the Arabs, said in an interview with *Arab News* that the current major effort to woo the Arab tourists has evoked "a very good response."

Almond and Jenner, who were joined by British Airways' Marketing Coordinator for Saudi Arabia Trevor Griffith and District Sales Manager for Western Saudi Arabia Beshouri Naaman, in the interview, said ever since MEVS was established three years ago, it has been working in combination with its parent body — British Airways — and the British Tourist Authority offering certain exclusive services that make traveling a pleasure.

The result is a warm, friendly welcome to the Arab visitor at London's Heathrow Airport by the Arabic-speaking MEVS representatives with the words: "Hello! We speak your language. Can we help you?" What better way to start one's visit to Britain than with a smile and welcome in one's own language!

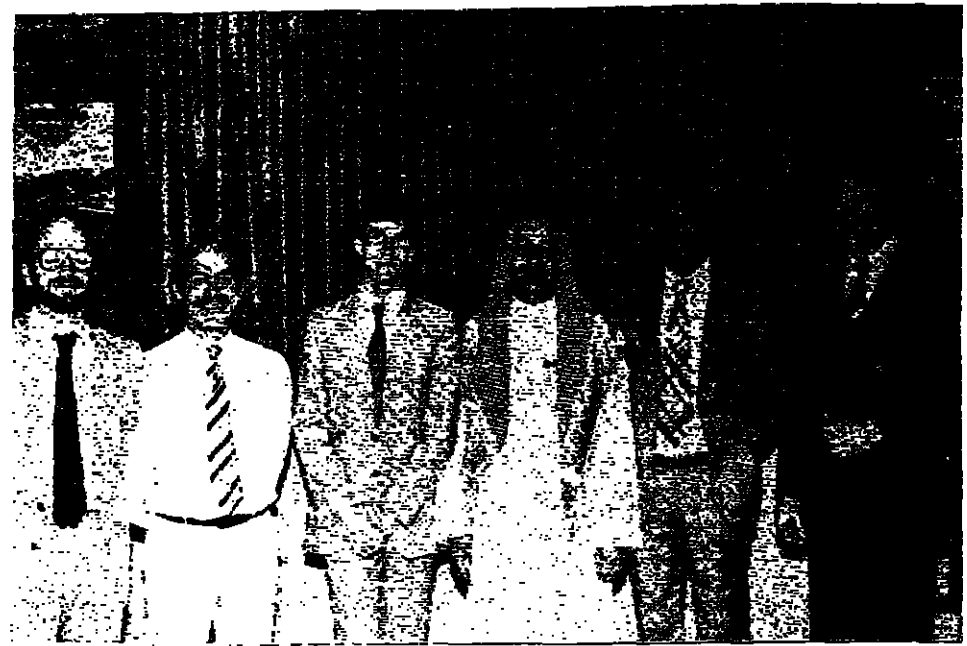
"But MEVS provides more than just a friendly greeting. It offers practical help to speed you effortlessly through customs and passport formalities in a record eight minutes. The average time taken for these in any case will not exceed 15 minutes," Almond claimed.

"All of our customer service agents speak fluent Arabic and all of them have been carefully trained to look after you and your family in the manner you would expect. We call them your new friends in London because that's just what they are — people who'll help in the way that good friends always do. This service is absolutely free of charge to all those traveling by British Airways, although it has been extended to those of other airlines on request," Almond said.

Assisting the Arab visitor through the hustle and bustle of the airport is where the service starts. When he arrives at Heathrow Airport on one of British Airways 40 weekly flights from the Middle East, he will find MEVS handy as his personal tour organizer, to handle major problems and small details, he said.

Utilization of the free service guarantees a limousine large enough for four persons and their luggage waiting to take you to central London for only £20, assistance to find the right hotel or apartment, especially in London, and car hire. MEVS has priority service for the businessmen. Besides, it looks after flight reservations and travel arrangements, sightseeing and tourist information, offers special help for women traveling alone, provides escorts to children and language school contacts, etc., he added.

Almond said there has been an increase of five to 10 percent in the carriage of Arab states during the last three years. "Arab travelers feel much at home on British Airways, thanks to MEVS."



VISITOR SERVICE: Representatives of MEVS and its parent body British Airways as well as the British Tourist Authority concluded Friday their tour of the Kingdom promoting Britain as a tourist destination for Middle East travelers. Photo taken at the audiovisual show held by them at the Hyatt Regency Hotel here recently shows, from left to right, Michael Jenner, executive of the British Tourist Authority's Middle East and Africa Department; Beshouri Naaman, district sales manager of British Airways for Western Saudi Arabia; Ian Harrower, assistant marketing executive of BTA for Middle East and Africa; Saddik Omar Attar of Attar Travels and Rolex watches; Muhammad Ali, sales manager of Attar Travels; and Gordon A. Almond, MEVS general manager.

In fact, we have a peak business with the word of mouth within the Kingdom raving about MEVS which is a "genuine, non-commercial service organization."

People feel very much at home with us to such an extent that they get to know our staff even by their names. In fact, MEVS is an official Arabic translation agency for the British immigration people, he said.

Explaining why MEVS was created, Almond said it was because the need was consistently felt for a specialized unit with the Arabic speaking staff to look after the Arab visitors whose number kept growing ever since the Arab tourist boom after the quadrupling of oil prices in 1974.

"We employed a lot of Arabic speaking people and stationed them at Heathrow to assist the Arabs arriving by British Airways — the largest airline operating from the Middle East into Europe," Almond added.

Almond said the organization costs about £150,000 a year, "but the cost is insignificant compared with the revenue that the airline gets from the Middle East, which exceeds £120 million."

Jenner said the British Tourist Authority that he represents is a government agency and "our job is to promote tourism from abroad into U.K." through travel agencies and airlines in the Middle East between October and March so that tourists start arriving in the summer months and keep doing so until September.

He said the Middle East tourists constitute 15 percent of the tourists from all over the world and rank next to the Europeans and Americans visiting U.K. But, the Middle East visitors spend a lot more than others —

## Pym to pay visit in 'few weeks'

LONDON, March 25 (SPA) — British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym, in a BBC interview broadcast Thursday night, said he will visit Saudi Arabia over the next few weeks in response to an invitation from his Saudi Arabian counterpart Prince Saud Al-Faisal.

He described the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) as a main factor which would contribute to the stability of the region. Pym noted that the GCC enjoyed

almost twice the money spent by the rest of the traveling community visiting U.K.

The inflow of Saudi Arabian visitors into U.K. has also been steadily increasing, he said adding that British Airways operates in a week six flights from Dhahran and five from Jeddah, six during the summer months.

Griffith, however, said that British Airways is not at the moment carrying a large number of Arab traffic. Hence, the specific object of the combined operation of the airline, MEVS and the British Tourist Authority is to boost the inflow of tourists from the Middle East, particularly now when the foreign exchange rate is favorable for holidays in British where high quality goods and services are for the asking. "In terms of Saudi riyals, it's getting cheaper even in terms of hotel charges," Griffith said.

Naaman said 80 percent of the tourists from the Kingdom are non-Saudis — Americans, British and other expatriates. The great boom of Arab tourism in U.K. in the mid-'70s lasted four or five years until the Arabs discovered tourist attractions of other countries in Europe and America. "But now Arab tourism appears to be turning toward Britain again," Naaman added.

Almond, Jenner, Griffith and the British Tourist Authority's Ian Harrower, assistant marketing executive for the Middle East and Africa, presented an audiovisual show for travel agents and airline representatives at the Hyatt Regency Hotel here recently, in which they brought out the effectiveness of the combined roles of the three agencies in presenting Britain as a bargain for the Middle East tourists on business and a holiday.

large-scale support from the people of the various Arab countries. He also affirmed his country's interest in the establishment of security and stability in the Middle East as well as in various parts of the world. Anglo-Arab relations are now back to their former state, especially after the recent visit to London by the Arab League Follow-Up Committee, he said, adding that these relations would be "more effective" in the near future.

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Riyadh study completed

# Four basic factors cause car accidents

By S. Sidahmed  
Riyadh Bureau

RIYADH, March 25 — Four basic factors contribute to car accidents here — the place, the timing, the car and the driver, Dr. Muhammad Mahmoud Muhammadain told representatives at the 'Saudi Cities' symposium held here last week.

Last year there were a total of 9,183 car accidents reported, one accident every 55 minutes, according to a paper prepared by Muhammadain, who is a faculty member at the King Saud University Geography Department.

Muhammadain broke his presentation down into the four major categories and clarified each. He said Riyadh has grown and surpassed a population of one million since 1981; 25 percent of the population is non-Saudis and 30 percent of the total population are working people. 4 percent of these have two jobs, which means they have too much

mobility. On timing the paper notes that 72 percent of the accidents take place during the day, especially between 6 and 8 a.m. and 6 and 7 p.m. Winter is the worst season, accounting for 29 percent of the accidents. Friday and the month of Ramadan are the best times, when the accident percentage drops.

Muhammadain estimates that there are 2,800 cars running in Riyadh daily, 45 percent of these are private cars, 28 percent small trucks, 22 percent taxis, 4 percent big trucks and 1 percent coasters. Private cars and taxis account for 62 percent of the accidents. And the share of private cars is emphasized by the fact that last year alone 210,000 driving licenses were issued here of which 62 percent are for private cars.

Aside from the small cars, there are 29,000 heavy trucks that leave or come to the city daily from Dammam, Khair, Hijaz and Dira.



Dr. Mansour Al-Turki

## Gulf university meeting slated

RIYADH, March 25 — Directors of universities in the Gulf states will hold a meeting in Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates, in the first half of May, *Al-Bilad* has reported. During the meeting, the first of its kind, the directors will discuss the most important university issues of concern to the Gulf states including those relating to registration and admission.

## Scholars present 33 papers on city expansion, structure

Riyadh Bureau

RIYADH, March 25 — The 'Saudi Cities: Expansion and Structure' seminar concludes its meetings here last week. During ten sessions, 33 papers were presented on various fields that cover the geographical, distribution, change and internal structure of the Saudi Arabian cities.

Aside from the topics like qualitative distribution, population and area, some papers dealt with specific issues and towns like Jeddah which has a historical significance and Yanbu which represents a new experience in urban planning.

The conference was inaugurated by Dr. Mansour Al-Turki, the rector of King Saud University and was accompanied by an

exhibition of Saudi Arabian cities. Summing up the objectives of the symposium, Dr. Assad Suliman Abdo, head of the preparatory committee, said in the final session that the participation was restricted to researchers in the university and officials to encourage exchange of ideas and help promoting applied sciences.

## Anti-smoking campaign

MAKKAH, March 25 — An intensive anti-smoking campaign will be launched here between March 27 and 30 by the student affairs department of the Umm Al-Qura University. Efforts will be geared to showing the bad effects of smoking and its hazards to health, *Al-Madinah* reported.

## Old telephone sets exchanged for new ones

JEDDAH, March 25 — Saudi Telephone is exchanging subscribers old telephone sets with new ones, *Al-Madinah* reported.

The company has distributed 600,000 sets. Saudi Telephone also urged subscribers to take their sets with them when they change their address.

In case they do not keep a line any longer, they should return the sets to the company, a spokesman said. Dr. Alawi Darwish Kayyal, the minister of posts, telegraph and telephones, gave instructions that old sets should be replaced by new and advanced ones.

## Prayer Times

	Makkah	Madinah	Riyadh	Dammam	Buraidah	Tabuk
Saturday						
Fajr (Dawn)	4:55	4:55	4:27	4:13	4:38	5:07
Dhuhr (Noon)	12:27	12:27	11:59	11:46	12:10	12:40
Asr (Afternoon)	3:52	3:55	3:26	3:14	3:38	4:09
Maghreb (Sunset)	6:34	6:36	6:07	5:54	6:19	6:49
Isha (Night)	8:04	8:06	7:37	7:24	7:49	8:19

## 24 girls schools planned in Taif

TAIF, March 25 — A total of 24 girl schools of various levels will be opened in Taif and neighboring villages during the academic year 1983/84, a spokesman of the Taif Education Department has said. The spokesman told *Al-Nadwa* newspaper that the schools will include three primary, two intermediate and one secondary in Taif. In the villages, there will be 11 elementary, five intermediate, one secondary and a female teachers' training institute.

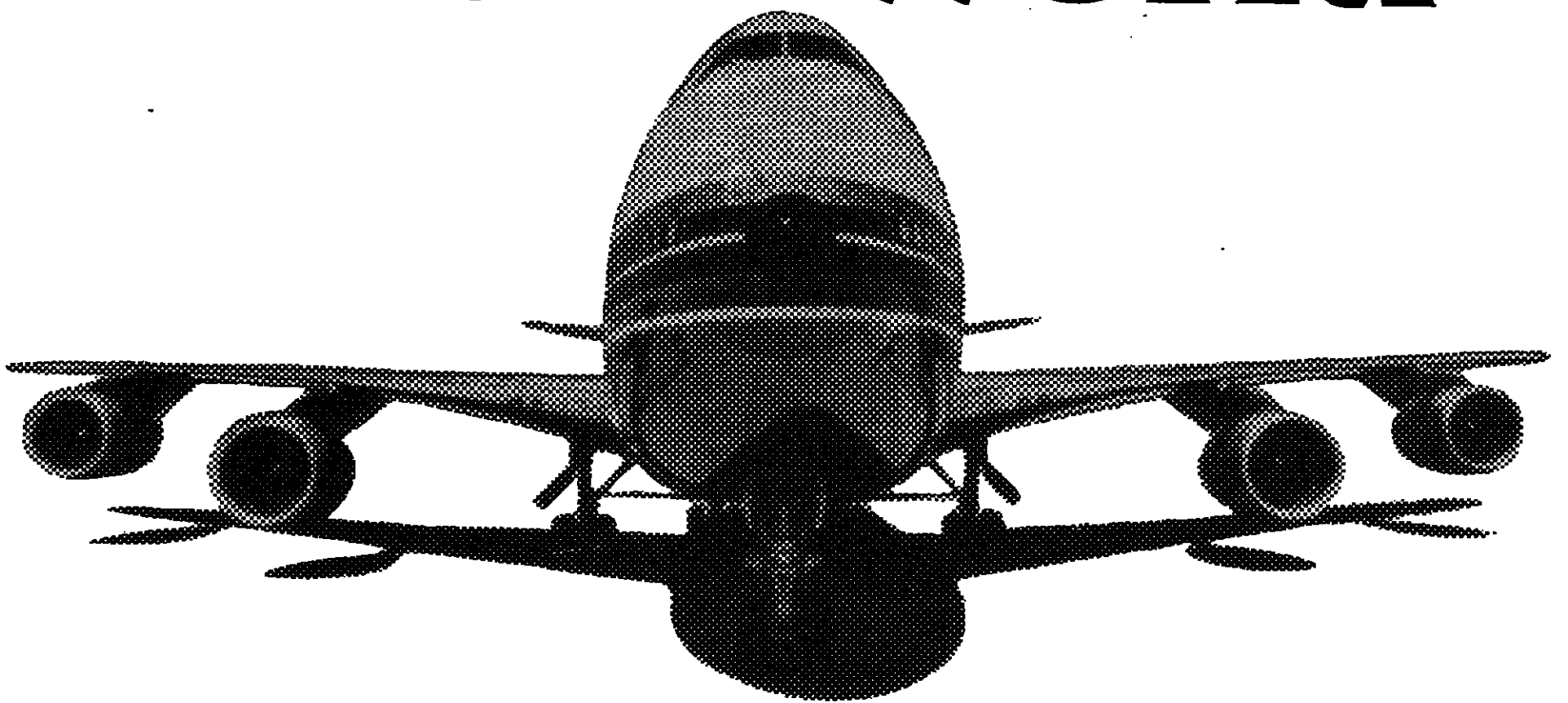
Al-Rayan School, which comprises primary level classes and a kindergarten, was handed over recently by the contractor. It

cost SR5.4 million. Six other school buildings have also been completed in the villages.

In Jeddah, two primary schools for girls (the 23rd and the 29th) were evacuated this week as they were found to be dangerous and could crumble any time. *Al-Madinah* newspaper said that the Girl Education Department moved them to other buildings to ensure the safety of the pupils.

Meanwhile, in a separate development, Dr. Ibrahim Al-Shaalan, Riyadh's girl education director, said that 124 school building projects were either under execution or being studied.

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TUESDAY SV374	RIYADH	23.50	*01.20
	SEOUL	17.40	
FRIDAY SV372	JEDDAH		19.00
	RIYADH	20.30	21.55
	BANGKOK	*09.00	10.00
	SEOUL	17.00	

\*Next day

### From SEOUL

Days/Fly. No.	Sector	Arrival	Departure
MONDAY	SEOUL		19.50
WEDNESDAY SV373	RIYADH	*01.50	03.50
	JEDDAH	05.25	
SATURDAY SV375	SEOUL		19.50
	BANGKOK	22.50	23.59
	RIYADH	*03.35	

\*Next day

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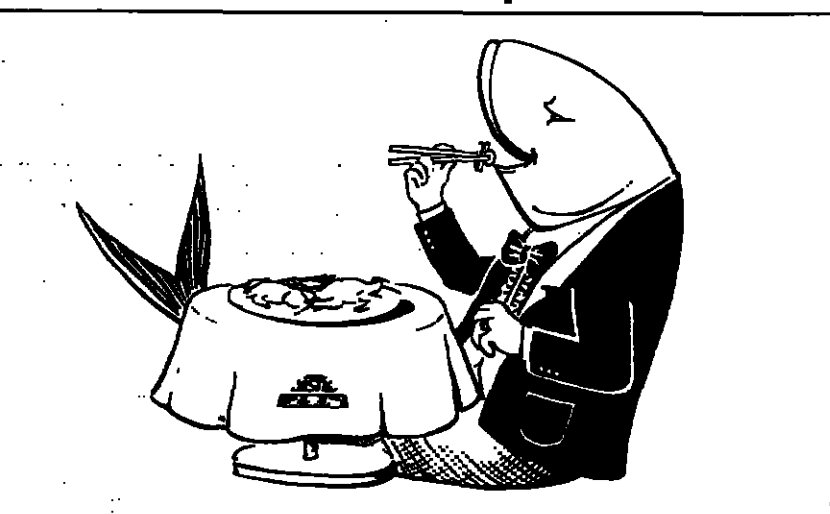
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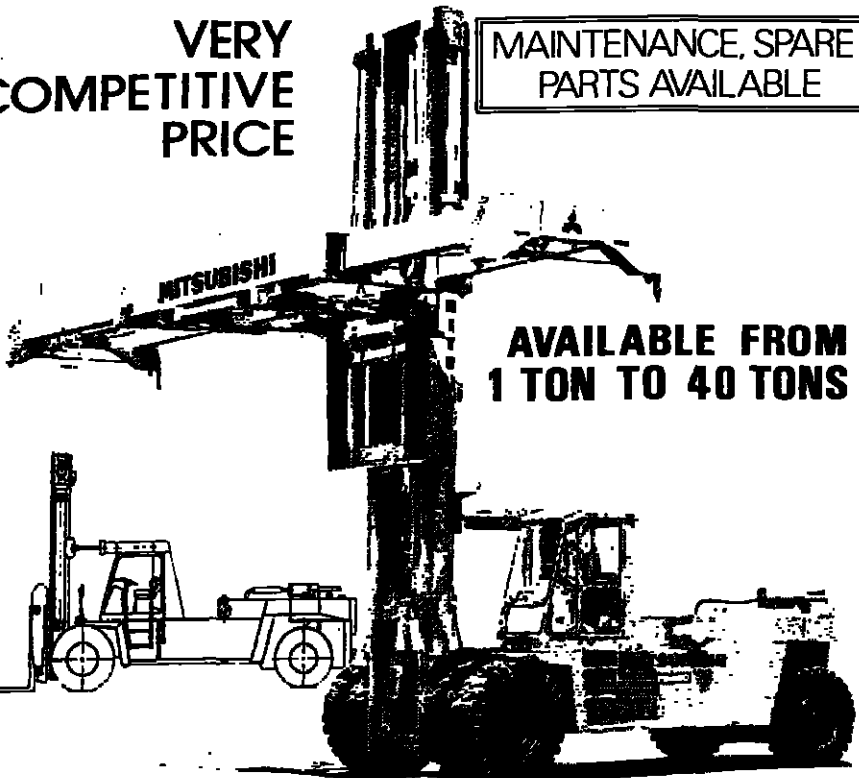
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## Top PLO leader rules out tie-up with Hussein in quest for peace



Salah Khalaf

KUWAIT, March 25 (AP) — A high-ranking Palestinian commando leader was quoted Friday as dismissing chances of cooperation with King Hussein of Jordan, while calling for closer ties with Syrian-led hardliners in the quest for a peace settlement with Israel.

"We reject this ridiculous equation to which the world has been trying to drag us," said Salah Khalaf, who is second to Yasser Arafat in the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and its mainline commando group Fatah.

Khalaf, popular by his nom de guerre Abu Iyad, made his statement during a meeting here Thursday night with Palestinian professors and researchers at the university of Kuwait.

He said that Arafat was to visit Jordan shortly and communicate to Hussein the resolutions that the Palestinian National Council (PNC) — the parliament-in-exile — adopted in Algiers last month on prospects of peace with Israel.

Abu Ammar will fill King Hussein in, so that the Palestinians will not be blamed for any paralysis in the upcoming phase (of the peace drive)," said Khalaf.

He complained that Hussein "so far has not been able to obtain any guarantees for the implementation of Palestinian rights" to independent statehood in the West Bank of Jordan and the Gaza Strip.

He insisted that the PLO must be allowed to participate in any peace efforts as recognized partner.

"The ridiculous equation being drummed up by the world calls for a one-sided recognition (by the PLO) of Israel, gives the Palestinians nothing, and asks the PLO to mandate King Hussein to negotiate on behalf of the Palestinians," he said.

"The funny equation links King Hussein's position to that of the PLO, and now we ask: What will Hussein give the Palestinians?"

Khalaf said that the Palestinian leadership will "not yield to pressure or terror, and we will pursue a path of realism based on our own conviction and not on the American reality that demands of us to raise our hands in surrender."

"They want the Palestinians to sign (for peace) in return for nothing," Khalaf said.

Khalaf said that the PLO was in favor of mending its fences with Syria, contending that close ties with Syria would strengthen the PLO and dissuade the Arabs who favor the Reagan proposals.

Syria has rejected the U.S. President Ronald Reagan's proposals, while the Jordanian monarch was reported to be keen on winning a PLO mandate to talk peace with Israel under U.S. auspices on behalf of the Palestinians.

"We are with Syria and any ally who would help us liberate even as many as one Palestinian hamlet," Khalaf was quoted as saying.

He accused Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak of "spearheading a campaign of grudge against the Palestinians, with American blessings." Khalaf claimed that Mubarak was "trying to cover his policy of pursuing the line of (the late Egyptian leader Anwar) Sadat."

Sadat's peace drive with Israel produced the Camp David treaty frameworks and the 1979 peace treaty with the Jewish state, which the PLO has rejected as a sellout of Palestinian rights.

## POW swap talks continue

VIENNA, March 25 (R) — Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kriesky said Friday negotiations for an exchange of Israeli soldiers and Palestinians were continuing but the matter was too delicate to give details publicly.

"Unfortunately indiscretions of the press concerning these negotiations have already done more harm than good, but the talks do continue and there are contacts between the PLO and Israel," Kriesky told reporters here.

Kriesky has acted as a go-between in negotiations for a swap of prisoners. The talks are deadlocked over an Israeli offer of

800 Palestinian prisoners of war for eight Israeli soldiers held captive by the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) since last September. The PLO demanded the release of 1,000 Palestinians.

"The less is said about the negotiations the better but for humanitarian reasons we hope that eventually some sort of agreement will be achieved," Kriesky said. Kriesky has taken a keen interest in the Middle East situation and was the first Western leader to receive Yasser Arafat, the head of the PLO, in 1980.

## De Cuellar visits Moscow tomorrow

## New U.N. bid to end Afghan crisis

LONDON, March 25 (R) — Diplomatic and military tests are looming for the Soviet Union in Afghanistan as the United Nations resumes talks to end Moscow's armed intervention.

U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar will seek to further a negotiated Afghan settlement with a personal mission to Moscow starting next Sunday.

In two weeks, his Afghanistan trouble-shooter, Diego Cordovez, will continue his own dogged quest for a solution in a new round of indirect talks in Geneva between the Soviet-backed Afghan government of Babrak Karmal and neighboring Pakistan.

In Afghanistan, an estimated 105,000 Soviet troops are preparing for a new, and probably intense, spring campaign of mountain fighting against anti-government Mujahedeen.

## Israeli soldier injured in Beirut

BEIRUT, March 25 (AFP) — An Israeli soldier was injured Friday when a remote controlled device exploded by the side of a road in the Shuffat district south of here where he was on patrol, an Israeli military spokesman said.

Israeli forces immediately blocked off the area to hunt for those responsible for planting the device and the search for others that might have been left in the vicinity.

On Thursday a bomb exploded by the side of a road near Tyre in southern Lebanon, damaging a bus carrying Israeli soldiers on leave.

## Palestinians nabbed for violating ban

TEL AVIV, March 25 (Agencies) — Israeli security forces had arrested several Palestinians in connection with the banned distribution in the West Bank of an Arab-language newspaper. Israeli radio said security forces had laid an ambush to catch the distributors, whom they suspected of selling the *Al-Shaab* newspaper, which is banned from the West Bank and Gaza.

*Al-Shaab* editor Ali Yaish was quoted as telling Israeli radio he knew nothing about the distribution and that he could not prevent people from reading his newspaper.

The radio also said the army had found radical anti-Israel propaganda in the house of one of the suspects in Bethlehem.

Five busloads of Palestinians from the occupied Gaza Strip tried to demonstrate by the West Bank's Bir Zeit University, the Israeli military command reported.

## BRIEFS

LONDON (R) — Deputy British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd left London Friday on a brief tour of Kuwait, Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon, the government announced.

TEHRAN (AFP) — Ayatollah Hussein Ali Montazeri, the probable successor to Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini, has accused the United States of provoking recent clashes between Sunni and Shia in Pakistan, radio Tehran reported Friday.

TEL AVIV (AP) — The Health Ministry was Thursday investigating the poisoning Wednesday of Arab schoolchildren from the occupied West Bank village of Arraba near

Jerusalem. The Palestinians were ordered to present themselves at the local military administration, and after a brief questioning were returned to Gaza, the command said.

Bir Zeit University has been a center for Palestinian unrest. On Wednesday, the army reported it had detained 30 Palestinians from the town of Bir Zeit, 20 kilometers north of Occupied Jerusalem, on suspicion of painting anti-Israel slogans on walls.

Israel radio reported that a Palestinian commercial strike which was called for Friday to mark the first anniversary of Israel's dismissal of two West Bank mayors had not materialized.

Nablus Mayor Bassam Shakaa and Ramallah Mayor Kerim Khalaf were dismissed for not cooperating with the Israeli authorities and for inciting anti-Israeli violence.

BEIRUT (R) — Former Lebanese President Charles Helou left Beirut Friday for the Vatican as personal emissary of President Amin Gemayel, official sources said here.

PARIS (AFP) — Several dozen people demonstrated in front of the Afghan Embassy here Friday demanding the release of a French physician serving an eight-year prison term in Kabul.

ROME (AFP) — A Rome court Thursday sentenced a Libyan national to life imprisonment for killing one of his countrymen here three years ago.

BEIRUT (R) — Former Lebanese President Charles Helou left Beirut Friday for the Vatican as personal emissary of President Amin Gemayel, official sources said here.

## Fate of Reagan peace plan hangs in balance

AMMAN, March 25 (R) — President Reagan's Middle East peace initiative is probably doomed unless he can quickly arm-twist Israel into a more conciliatory attitude to the Arabs, according to informed sources in Amman.

The United States is pressing King Hussein of Jordan to follow the example of the late President Anwar Sadat of Egypt and enter U.S.-sponsored negotiations with Israel.

The Reagan plan of September 1982 proposed an Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank of Jordan and the Gaza Strip and for Palestinian self-rule there in association with Jordan.

But the king remains wary of proceeding with negotiations without credible evidence that the United States could deliver an eventual deal that could be "sold" to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and the Arabs generally.

U.S. credibility would be improved in the eyes of King Hussein if Washington secured Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon, and per-

## Settlements stumbling block

sued the Israelis to freeze the building of new Jewish settlements on the West Bank, the sources say.

However, the king told a London news conference earlier this month that time was running out for the peace process. The run-up to the U.S. presidential election is seen as likely to distract American attention from the Middle East by the end of this year.

Negotiations on an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon have been going on for three months with no agreement yet in sight. Prime Minister Menachem Begin has said there is no question of halting Jewish settlements on the West Bank. Israel radio said this week that eight new settlements were being started.

Even if the U.S. could bring pressure to bear on Israel, King Hussein would be wary of entering talks on the basis of the Reagan plan, bearing in mind that Israel flatly rejects it, without the approval of Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

The king is still weighing his next move and is due to hold what he has said will be crucial talks with Arafat in Amman within the next few days.

Western diplomats speculate that the most to be expected from the meeting is some firming up of the Arab negotiating posture and a renewed call on the United States to secure a settlements freeze.

The two men might make progress on ways of reconciling the Reagan proposals with the position of the PLO and the Arabs generally whose own peace plan called for a fully independent Palestinian state.

A December Jordan-PLO statement, however, said Jordan and the PLO had a "mutual concept of the special and distinctive relationship between Jordan and a liberated Palestine." Jordan administered the West Bank from 1949 to 1967.

The Algiers meeting of the Palestine National Council last month said the PLO was ready to establish a confederation between an independent Palestinian state and Jordan.

Another stumbling block is that the United States has refused to negotiate with the PLO, while the Arabs insist it is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians.

One way round would be for King Hussein to include in his negotiating team Palestinians who are not PLO officials but who have Arafat's approval.

Diplomats speculated that if the king made progress at his meeting with Arafat he would be better placed, as one put it, to say to the United States "the ball is firmly in your court. You go ahead and use your influence with the Israelis."

This would coincide with similar diplomatic promptings from the ten members of the European Community who this week criticized continued Jewish settlement in the West Bank and stressed the urgency of an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

Even so, informed sources said King Hussein would be taking a huge risk entering U.S.-sponsored negotiations with Israel on any basis. Washington would, therefore, find it exceedingly difficult to prise him from his position that anything he does will need approval, tacit or otherwise, from Arafat.

The king would probably want solid guarantees that talks would yield an eventual settlement that removed Israel from the West Bank and Gaza.

There remains a strong incentive for Jordan to go to the conference table in the hope, seen by many diplomats here as an increasingly forlorn one, that a lasting U.S.-sponsored Arab-Israeli settlement can emerge.

The sources said the kingdom remains afraid that Israel's long-term goal is to annex the West Bank and encourage a mass movement of Palestinians eastward so that Jordan emerges as the eventual Palestinian home.

But against the risk that, sooner or later, Jordan could be embroiled in a new round of Middle East warfare, King Hussein has to weigh fears of Arab wrath, should he abandon the PLO and make his own peace with Begin.

## Amnesty: threat looms over Libyans abroad

LONDON, March 25 (AP) — Amnesty International warned Friday that Libyans abroad are under threat following an official government decision that all Libyans considered "hostile" will be hunted down and liquidated.

A similar decision by Libyan strongman Muammar Qaddafi in February 1980 was followed within months by the assassination of 11 Libyans living in other countries and the attempted killing of four others, Amnesty said.

The London-based human rights organization said the new threat was issued Feb. 17 by the General People's Congress in Tripoli and followed repeated urgings by Qaddafi in recent months that the congress should approve the elimination of "enemies abroad."

The latest threat warned that Libyans abroad who were classified as "hostile" and failed to repent would be "pursued by all the sons of the Libyan people with all available means" and would be liquidated, Amnesty said.

It also warned states which "shelter and assist" exiles considered hostile to the revolution.

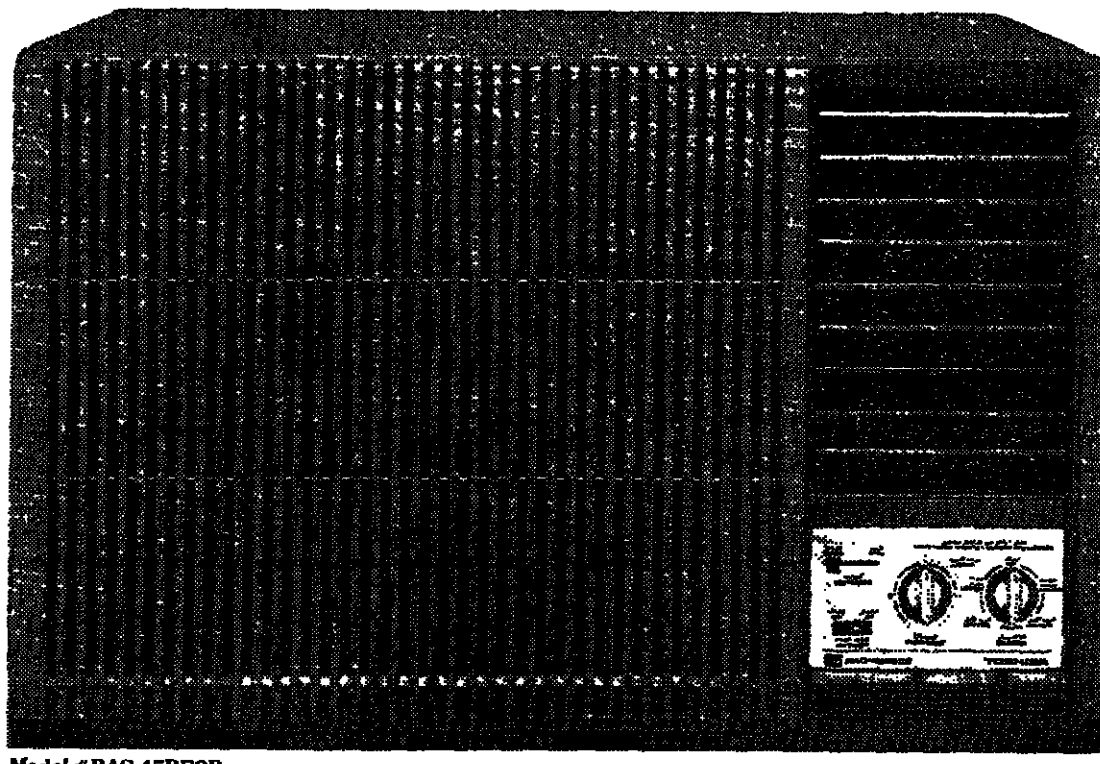
The 11 killings in 1980 took place in Italy, Britain, West Germany, Greece and Lebanon. Subsequently, six Libyans, all traveling as tourists or students, were convicted of four of the killings.

## Tremor rocks Tehran

NICOSIA, March 25 (AP) — A mild tremor shook the Iranian capital city of Tehran at 1530 local time (1200 GMT) Friday, the official Iranian News Agency, IRNA, reported. The agency said the Tehran university geophysics institute confirmed the tremor.

But it added that the intensity of the tremor, its epicenter and "possible damage caused by it" were not immediately known.

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## Citing Taiwan, China spurns U.S. arms

PEKING, March 25 (AFP) — China on Friday ruled out all possibility of its being supplied arms by the United States while the current state of relations between the two countries, aggravated by the Taiwan issue, continued. The Foreign Ministry information department announced this stand in a brief statement replying to a question over a secret Pentagon document on possible U.S. arms sales to China.

Reports from Washington that the document recommended arms sales to China "if it is possible and appropriate" coincided with China's most recent protest last week against U.S. military assistance to Taiwan.

"At present, the question of the United States providing arms to China or China asking the United States for arms supplies simply does not exist," the Foreign Ministry statement said.

Although China has attacked U.S. "hegemonism," particularly Washington's foreign policy in the Middle East and southern Africa, Chinese leaders have stressed on several occasions the only real obstacle to developing Sino-U.S. relations is the Taiwan issue.

The Pentagon document, which reportedly defines the Reagan administration's major defense strategies, includes the possibility of military aid for China to allow it to counter Soviet forces in the Far East.

## Venezuela plot denied

CARACAS, March 25 (AFP) — Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins called reports of a brewing coup d'etat "pure speculation." "According to the information in my possession, nothing has been confirmed. We are investigating the origin of these rumors," the president said at a press conference.

The New York Times reported that a number of generals and other officers based at Puerto Cabello, 300 kilometers to the west of here were arrested last week on charges of plotting to undermine "democratic institutions." Caracas' ambassador to the United States, Marcial Perez Chiriboga, denied The New York Times reports.

## Spain relaxes detention law

MADRID, March 25 (AFP) — A major penal reform will be inaugurated here in July, when Spain drastically curtails the preventive detention of prisoners awaiting trial. About 5,000 of Spain's 23,000 prison inmates will be released when the law, passed Tuesday by 119-to-88 parliamentary votes with 10 abstention, is implemented.

It is not unknown for a person in Spain to be held in prison for up to four years before his case comes to trial. Last July 10 several Africans awaiting trial in the Barcelona model prison sewed up their lips with needle and thread to protest against their incarceration.

The new law lays down that preventive arrest will only be used for serious offenders facing at least six years jail, except for those with a criminal record. In any case it will not last more than 18 months, or 30 months in exceptional cases.

Justice Minister Fernando Ledesma, "father" of the new law, said that human rights were being ignored in some Spanish prisons. He cited the case of Barcelona prison, which had twice as many inmates as its normal capacity.

In September 1981 a mass hunger strike was carried out by 6,000 prisoners to end preventive detention, and last September 2,000 inmates in Barcelona followed suit.

## Women continue protest

## Press sees British base

GREENHAM COMMON, England, March 25 (AP) — The first base in Britain where the U.S. Air Force will deploy its Cruise nuclear missiles later this year was shown off to reporters Thursday — a muddy and desolate construction site on an old Royal Air Force station.

Journalists, given less than 24 hours notice of the visit by the Defense Ministry, were driven in two buses to the Greenham Common Base near Newbury, 50 miles west of London.

As they arrived, so did Defense Secretary Michael Heseltine in a helicopter, unannounced and with his wife Anne beside him. They touched down on the airfield home of the 501st U.S. Air Force tactical missile wing without seeing the permanent anti-Cruise sit-in at the main gate of women members of the campaign for nuclear disarmament.

Heseltine, wearing a camouflage combat jacket and hard hat was asked why he chose the day for a press visit and replied: "I considered it right to satisfy public curiosity about the base aroused by opponents of NATO policies."

"There are no secrets to hide. If you have a fence, people always want to know what's behind it. And I brought my wife because she asked to come."

The journalists who missed seeing the peace camp by being driven into the base through a remote northern gap in the nine-mile barbed wire perimeter were confronted by them as they left.

The women had discovered what was going on and four arrived to sit down in front of the press buses while a fifth lay down in the mud in front of American servicemen driving out.

After 15 minutes resisting police arguments to move, the women were picked up and marched to the side of the road. One protester who identified herself only as 18-year-old Debi from Wales, said "I have been two months and I will stay as long as our camp survives." Women have been camping at the base's main entrance for nearly 18 months.

Reporters toured the first of six shelters that will be built at Greenham Common to house mobile launchers that will carry the 96 Tomahawk Cruise missiles Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government has agreed to deploy.

Construction work is costing 61 million pounds (\$90 million) and the first launchers manned entirely by the U.S. Air Force should be in position by December. Heseltine said construction work would have to continue so long as the Soviet Union refuses to negotiate reduction of nuclear weapons in Europe.

## U.K. crime note irks non-whites

LONDON, March 25 (AP) — Leaders of Britain's non-white accused Scotland Yard of causing friction by claiming twice as many non-whites as whites committed violent crimes in London last year.

"These statistics are a deliberate attempt to provoke racial unrest," Roy Sawh, West Indian-born chairman of the Organization for U.K. Blacks' Rights, told the Associated Press in an interview.

"They will further alienate young blacks. If this sort of blatant racism continues, don't be surprised if there's another revolt in the streets this summer," Sawh was referring to Britain's worst riots this century in July 1981, by blacks and whites in London and other major cities, sparked by clashes between young non-whites and police.

The Scotland Yard statistics, disclosed in Parliament Tuesday, showed that out of a total of 19,258 violent street crimes in the capital last year, 10,960 were committed by non-whites. Only 5,262 were reported to have been carried out by whites. A further 534 were blamed on "mixed gangs," while the color of the assailants in the other 2,502 was not known.

Scotland Yard came under fierce criticism last year when it publicly issued crime statistics for 1981 with a racial breakdown. They agreed not to do so again.



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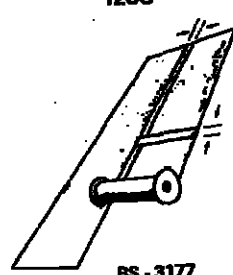
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## U.S. panel halves Salvador aid

### Chairman calls it compromise

WASHINGTON, March 25 (R) — In a defeat for President Reagan, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee agreed informally Thursday to halve his \$60 million military aid request for El Salvador.

The key committee took no vote but a clear majority of members said during debate that they would sign a letter cutting the aid and the chairman, Illinois Republican Charles Percy, declared it approved.

The committee is one of three to veto the president's request. Another panel approved the full amount but Senate aides said the president would be limited to the lowest sum approved by any of the three. Percy proposed the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's \$30 million cut, calling it a compromise to prevent an even deeper cut.

The committee attached no conditions to the spending but urged the administration to encourage an unconditional peace dialogue between El Salvador's government and insurgents. It also said U.S. military trainers in El Salvador should remain limited to 55 and that any additional U.S. training of El Salvador's troops should be conducted outside that country.

Meanwhile, violent fighting has been taking place between the Salvadoran Army and guerrillas in Chalatenango department, in the north of El Salvador, AFP reported quoting well-informed sources in San Salvador.

They said that the army was trying to retake some villages in the area controlled by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front. The army considers the current offensive in a department two-thirds controlled by guerrillas as a success, but has not published an official report on the fighting.

The army is also fighting guerrillas in the eastern department of Usulután, and has destroyed two guerrilla bases, according to an official communiqué issued Wednesday. It did not mention casualties.

In the capital, security troops were much in evidence Thursday on the third anniversary of the assassination of San Salvador Archbishop Oscar Romero, who was known as the "defender of the poor."

**'THEY'RE RUNNING SO SHORT OF BULLETS, THEY'VE EVEN HAD TO CUT DOWN ON SHOOTING THEIR CIVILIANS'**



## Court told of detectives' torture in America

DALLAS, Texas, March 25 (R) — Seven white detectives accused of beating up blacks heard a prosecutor tell a court they had sullied the motto of the New Orleans police. "The motto of the New Orleans police department is to protect and to serve," prosecutor Michael Johnson said. "These men didn't serve. These seven men adopted their own motto — to beat with their fists, to bag 'em and to book 'em."

Prosecution witnesses have alleged that during questioning detectives "booked"

people by hitting them on the head with a hardbound copy of the city directory and "bagged" them by twisting a plastic bag over their heads until they began to choke.

The policemen are charged with violating the civil rights of blacks by using brutal interrogation methods in the manhunt for the killer of a white policeman in New Orleans in 1980. During the search, four blacks were shot dead by police, who said they were acting in self-defense, and the case generated

such publicity in New Orleans that it was moved to Dallas. An all-white jury heard final witnesses and summing-up by the prosecution and defense Wednesday.

Defense lawyer Ralph Whalen took issue with the torture allegations. "This silly book business never happened," he said, insisting it made no sense to beat up potential witnesses. Another defense attorney, Walter Rothschild, told the jury that the five witnesses who said they suffered beatings showed no signs of injuries.

## Artificial heart controversy rages

NEW YORK, March 25 (AP) — The artificial heart that kept Barney Clark alive for 112 days after his own failing organ was removed prompted criticism that the man-made pump prolonged death, but proponents said it gave heart patients a choice.

Dr. Denton Cooley, the surgeon who first placed a non-permanent artificial heart in a patient in 1968, said the mechanical device was impractical for permanent use until it could contain its own power source.

The New York Times in an editorial asked: "Can all that pain and exertion be worthwhile?...To prolong life beyond its natural span is no favor unless reasonable quality is also provided."

Dr. Christian Barnard, the South African heart transplant pioneer, said the mechanical device did not appear to be the solution to heart problems.

Thursday, however, Barnard told the CBS radio network in an interview that Clark's doctors should continue their work. He said he believes "the time has come to explore the possibility of using a mechanical heart."

"I would like to tell these doctors that they must not give up and they will get a lot of criticism," he said. "But there are always those who criticize and those who will have to go along with the work."

Dr. Robert Jarvik, the mechanical heart's inventor, bridled when asked to respond on Dec. 2 — the day of Clark's implant operation — to Barnard's earlier statement. "That's his opinion and he's welcome to hold it," Jarvik said.

Doctors at the University of Utah, where Clark was a patient,

defended the use of the Jarvik-7 heart for patients such as Clark, who suffered from terminal disease and for whom a transplant was not possible.

"It remains to be seen whether he's correct (Cooley) or we're correct," said Dr. Chase Peterson, vice president for health sciences at the university.

At a news conference in Houston on Dec. 10, Cooley, of the Texas Heart Institute, pointed to a four-foot console needed to drive the pneumatically powered artificial heart, and said, "you can tell by that the impractical nature of long-term support on a totally artificial heart."

Cooley contended that transplants of natural hearts, however, represent a "safety net under the patient, and have developed a very illustrious record," including patient survival for as long as 12 years.

Dr. William C. DeVries, the surgeon who implanted the device in Clark said earlier this month that a third of the patients on the waiting list for heart transplants at Stanford University in California die before a donor heart becomes available.

Artificial hearts could enable people to wait longer for human hearts, but "if we went in and were to save one-third of the patients that were to die while they're waiting...their list of recipients would go from 25 to 30 to 40 to 50 to 100," he said.

"Pretty soon all of the people on their waiting list would have artificial hearts, waiting indefinitely, and the problem would still be a lack of donor hearts," DeVries said.

## Environmental agency officials resign

WASHINGTON, March 25 (AP) — The U.S. government, in a continuing effort to clean up the Environmental Protection Agency, asked for and received the resignations Thursday of the acting head of the agency and two other officials under investigation by congressional committees, EPA sources said.

Dr. John Hernandez, who took over as acting administrator just two weeks ago and immediately became the focus of congressional investigations, turned in his resignation formally Friday, according to a source close to Hernandez.

Another agency source, who also spoke on condition he not be identified, said assistant administrator John A. Todhunter and EPA general counsel Robert M. Perry were also resigning.

The resignations were said to have been requested in meetings late Thursday afternoon with White House aide Joe Ryan. "The White House apparently feels that if those three are taken away, then the congressional investigations will taper off," said one source.

They are the latest in a series of firings and resignations as the administration of President Ronald Reagan has struggled to control an expanding congressional probe into allegations of conflict of interest, political manipulation and mismanagement at the agency.

It started with Reagan's firing of Rita Lavelle, chief of the toxic waste dump clean-up program, on Feb. 7. Thursday's departures make it a total of eight top EPA officials who have been fired, asked to resign or quit.

Anne M. Burford resigned as head of the

agency on March 9, saying she did so because she had become the focus of many of the congressional investigations.

Hernandez, who had been deputy administrator at EPA for two years, was picked as acting administrator after Mrs. Burford resigned. A former professor at New Mexico State University, Hernandez expressed an interest in taking the job permanently, but almost immediately he found himself the subject of congressional inquiry into his handling of a report on dioxin contamination in Michigan.

EPA officials in Chicago testified Hernandez ordered them to cooperate with Dow Chemical Co. in revising the report, which in its final version removed a section concluding that a Dow plant was the major source of dioxin contamination.

## BRIEFS

TRIERS, West Germany (AP) — The West German city of Trier on Thursday formally revoked the honorary citizenship granted to Adolf Hitler nearly 50 years ago. Mayor Felix Zimmermann said Trier had considered Hitler's honorary citizenship revoked "already at the war's end" but never took any official action to strike the dictator's name from the municipal records. The mayor said Hitler's "criminal acts" were repulsive to citizens here but added that "like hundreds of other German towns we were forced to honor him" after the dictator came to power in 1933.

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union is to send cosmonauts into space aboard a "biological sputnik" to help scientists discover more about gardening in conditions of weightlessness, the official Tass news agency said. Tass said it was "important for the future of cosmonautics and also for fundamental science" to study the possibility of developing flowers and plants from seed in orbit. "How the crocus will fare in outer space is to be shown when it is in orbit," it said.

BERNE (R) — A Turk linked with the gunman who tried to assassinate Pope John Paul two years ago has been interned in Switzerland prior to expulsion. The Justice Ministry said Thursday. The man, Mehmet Sener was released Wednesday after the Swiss Supreme Court rejected a Turkish extradition request. He was re-arrested because of a ban on entering the country served on him in 1981, a spokesman said. Sener is sought by Turkey to face a charge of inciting his compatriot Mehmet Ali Agca to murder the editor of an Istanbul newspaper in 1979.

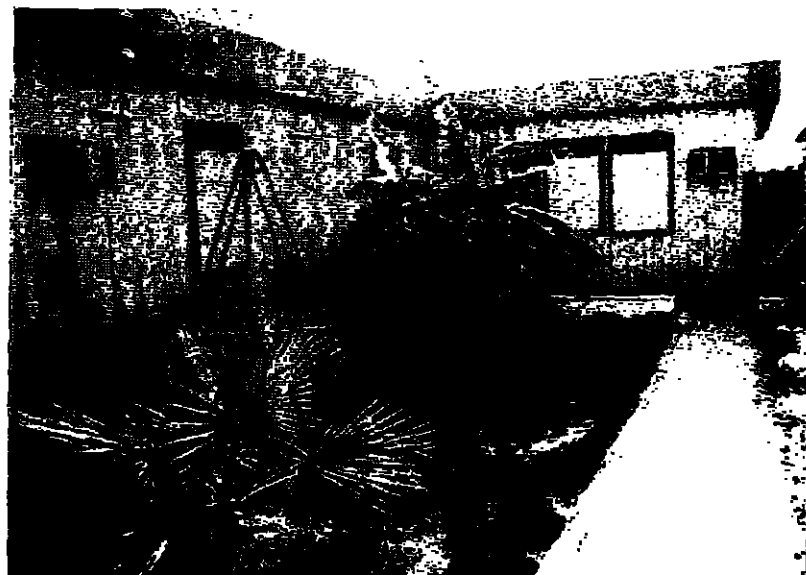
WARSAW (AFP) — Six former militants of the banned Solidarity trade union received prison sentences Thursday for not having abandoned their union activities after the proclamation of martial law in December 1981, the PAP news agency said.

LISBON (AP) — Black-ruled nations and liberation movements of war-torn southern Africa meet here this Sunday to seek international support in their multiple conflicts with the white-minority government of Pretoria. Key items on the agenda of the "international conference in solidarity with the frontline states and for national liberation and peace in southern Africa" will be support for the independence of South African-occupied Southwest Africa (Namibia) and condemnation of Pretoria's white-supremacist racial policy, apartheid.

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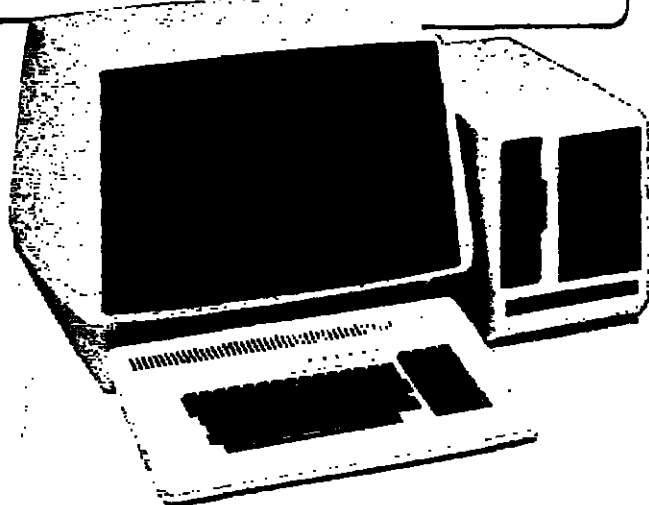
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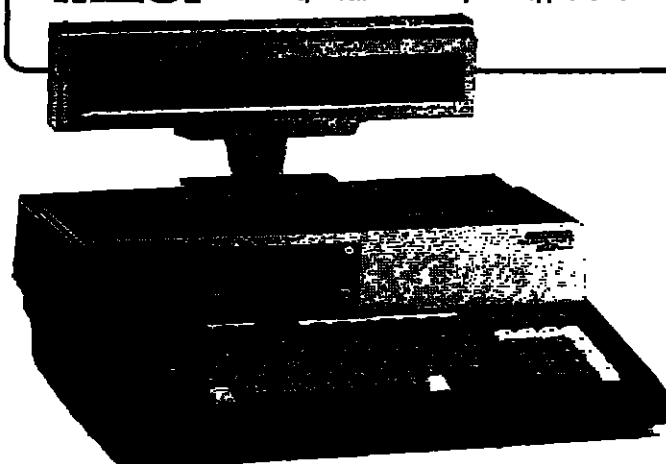
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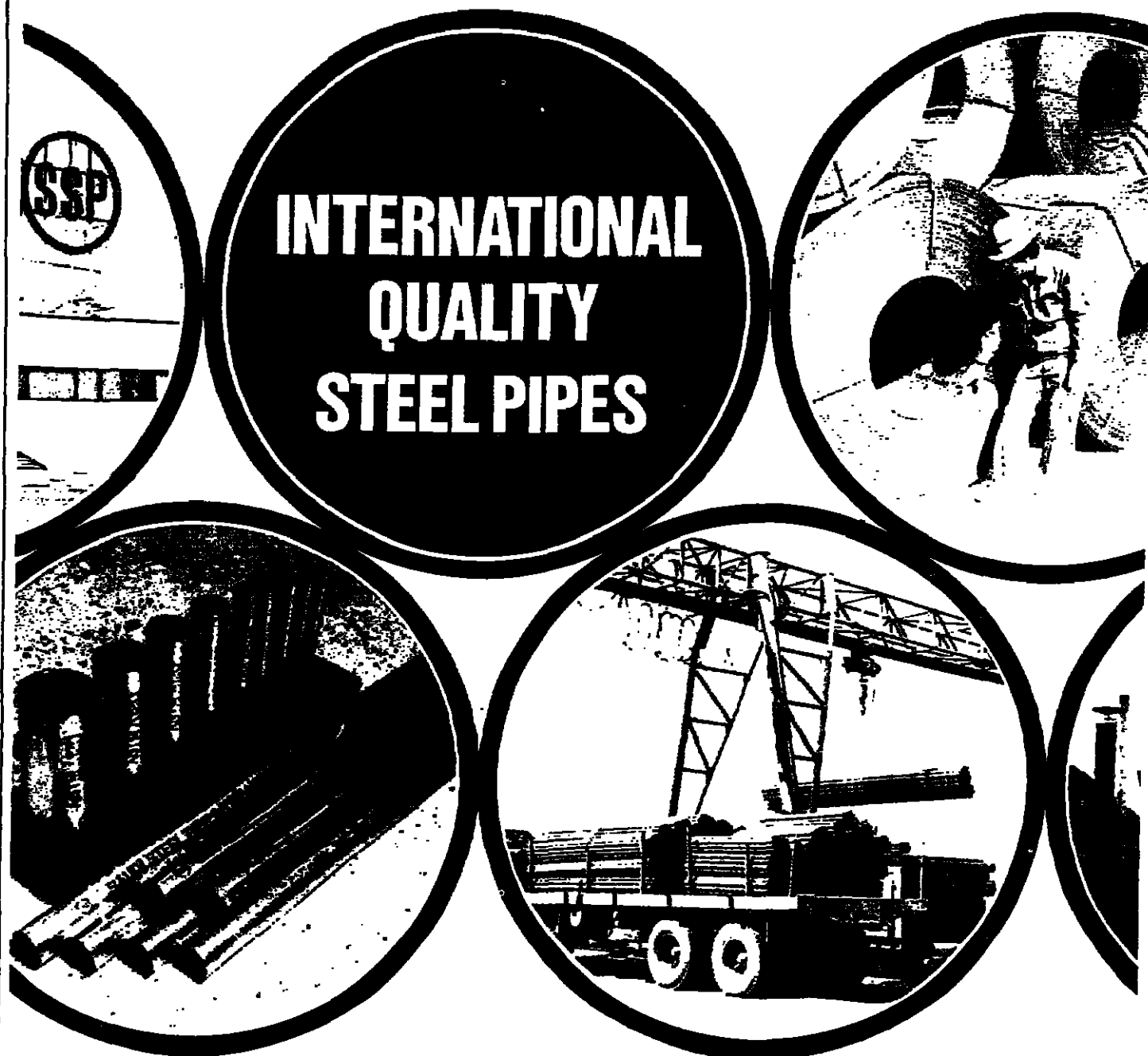
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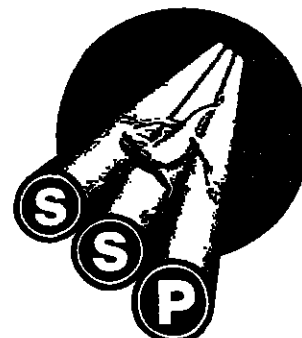


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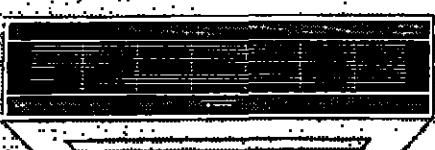
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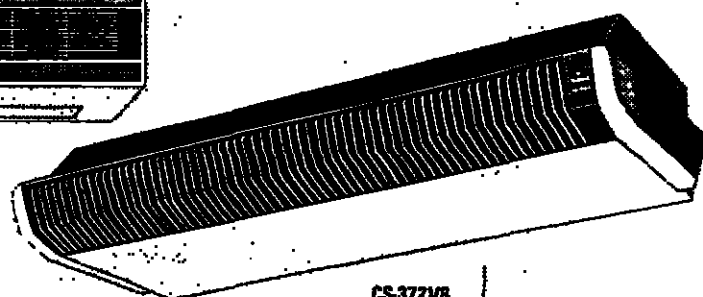
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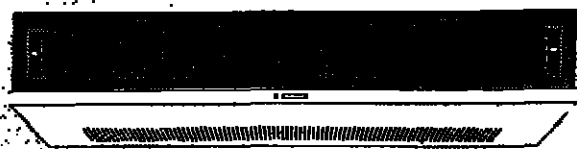
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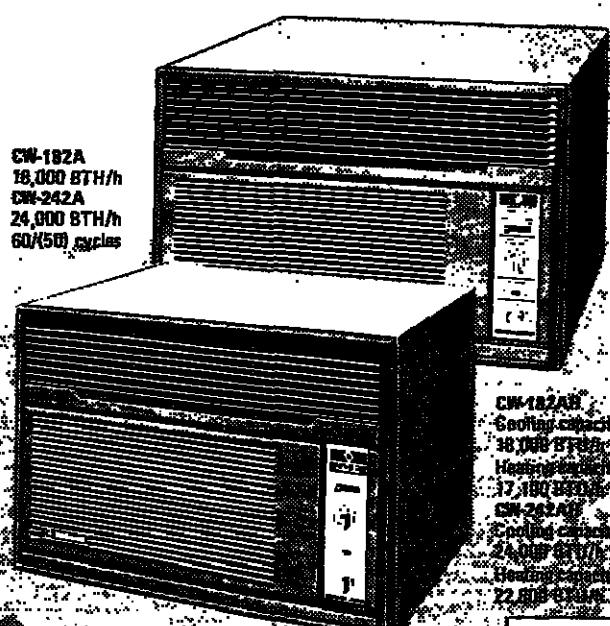
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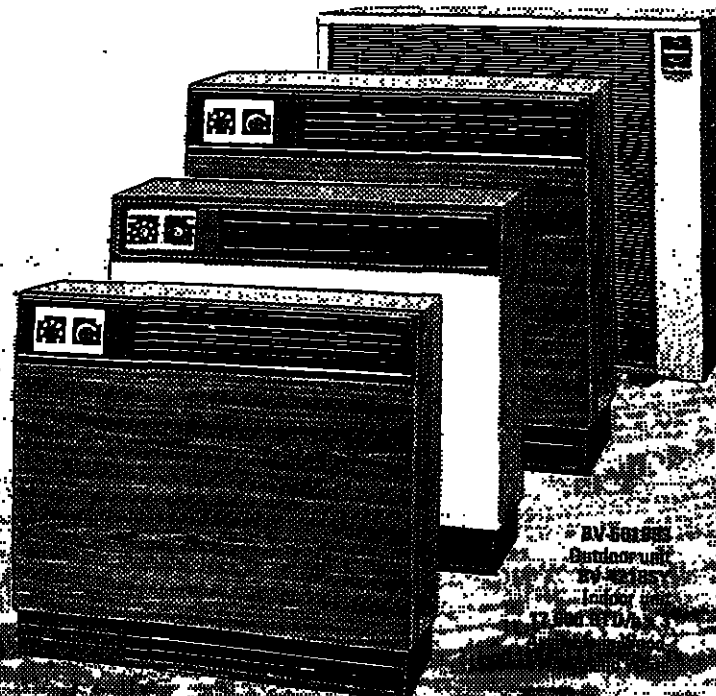
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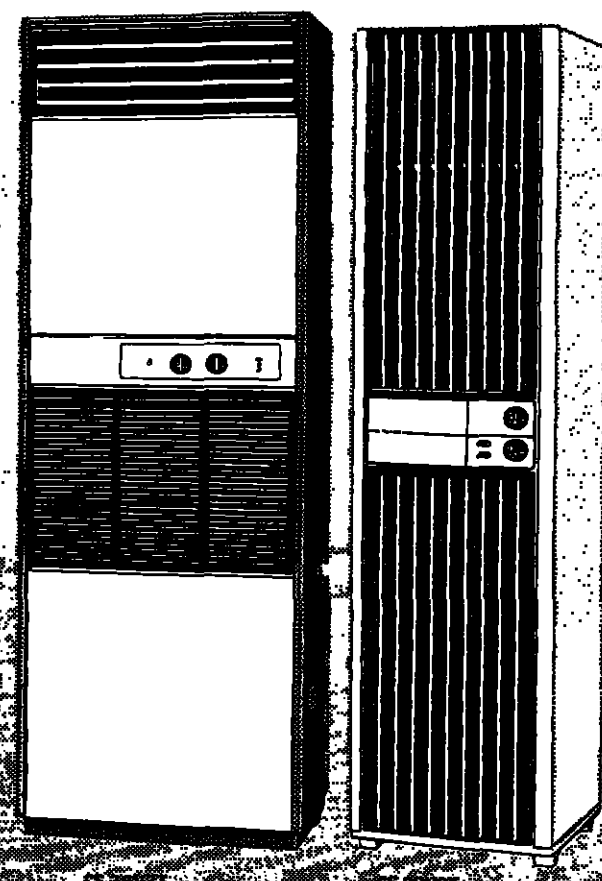
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CW-182AB 18,000 BTU/h CW-242AB 24,000 BTU/h 60/50 cycles



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## To keep hopes alive

## Mavericks evade Clippers' shears

NEW YORK, March 25 (AP) — The Dallas Mavericks usually depend on their front-court stars, Jay Vincent and Mark Aguirre. Against the San Diego Clippers, however, the Mavericks relied on their improving backcourt.

The play of guards Rolando Blackman, Brad Davis and Kevin Ransey paced the Mavericks to a 118-113 National Basketball Association decision Thursday night over the Clippers. Dallas with an outside shot at a playoff spot, got 20 points from Aguirre and 14 from Vincent, but the guards were the key.

## Poles, Austria in exciting draw

TOKYO, March 25 (AFP) — Favorites Poland were held to an exciting 5-5 draw by Austria on the fifth day of the 1983 Ice Hockey Group "B" World Championships here Friday. Period scores were (2-2, 0-2, 3-1).

Austria, runners-up to the United States in the last championships, took a 1-0 lead shortly after the start of the match as Peter Rafi scored on a pass from Leopold Sivec at 1:05. But the Poles evened at 5:52 with Wiesaw Jobczyk slapping in.

Austria regained the lead at 10:46. Polish goalkeeper Wodzimierz Olszewski was caught napping just after he neatly intercepted a shot from Richard Cunningham. He put the puck down on the ice, apparently taking Sivec, for one of his teammates because the players of the two teams wore very similar uniforms. No sooner had the goalkeeper put the puck down than Sivec flicked in.

The Poles equalized at 2-2 at 12:07 when Andrzej Ujwary slammed home during a power play. The Austrians enjoyed a 2-goal margin by the end of the second period, but the Poles caught up with two goals at 4:32 and 8:44 in the third period.

Austria leapt onto a new one-goal lead at 13:14 with Kelvin Greenbank scoring. The Poles never gave up and got an equalizer two minutes before the final buzzer on a shot by Andrzej Zabawa.

The tie gave Poland a record of two wins and one draw and Austria one win and two draws.

## Guo, Tong top seeds

TOKYO, March 25 (R) — China's world champions Guo Yuehua and Tong Ling are top seeds for the World Table Tennis Championships starting here next month, the organizing committee announced Friday.

Guo beat teammate Cai Zhenhua to take the men's singles title, while Tong beat compatriot Cao Yan Hua for the women's crown at the previous World Championships in Novi Sad, Yugoslavia, in 1981. Cai and Cao are second seeds for the Tokyo Championships from April 28 to May 9.

In the men's section other seeds are No. 3 Xie Saik of China, followed by Michael Appelgren of Sweden, Jiang Jianling of China, Seiji Ono of Japan, Desmond Douglas of England and Wang Huiyuan of China. The other women's seeds are No. 3 Qi Baoxiang of China, followed by compatriots Huang Junjun, Dai Lili and Chen Lili, and Bettine Vriesekoop of the Netherlands and Lee Soo Ja of South Korea.

ference but will need a late rush to catch sixth-place Portland or Seattle. Terry Cummings and Michael Brooks carried the load for the Clippers, finishing with 26 and 25 points respectively. Cummings also had a game-high 10 rebounds.

**Trail Blazers 104, Rockets 97:** Jim Paxson scored 25 points and Calvin Natt added 21 for Portland. The Blazers, nursing a 48-43 halftime lead, outscored the Rockets 39-26 in the third period, with Natt and Paxson scoring 10 points each.

**Suns 112, Kings 95:** Phoenix won its sixth straight home game behind Walt Davis, who had 25 points, and Maurice Lucas, who contributed 21 points and 12 rebounds. Kansas City lost on the road for the fifth consecutive time even though Steve Johnson hit 13 shots in-a-row from the field.

**Bullets 102, Bulls 96:** Don Collins came off the bench to score 31 points and Jeff Ruland had 26 points and 15 rebounds for Washington. Chicago rallied in the final minute, but Ruland hit a 10-foot jumper with 35 seconds to go and keyed the Bullets past the Bulls.

## Cantu champs

Meanwhile, holders Pallacanestro Cantu beat fellow-Italians Olympia Milan 69-68 in Grenoble Thursday in a Men's European Basketball Champions' Cup final watched by 15,000 fans, most of them Italians.

The Pallacanestro club, which represents a small furniture-making town near Lake Como, led 29-22 at halftime in a match that was close and low-scoring. They have beaten Olympia in three out of four encounters this season and retained the trophy they won last year.

Giant American Wallace Bryant was Cantu's leading scorer, chalking up 22 points before being sent off after having the maximum of five fouls awarded against him. The 22-year-old U.S. player had secured Cantu's place in the final by scoring 27 points in the 106-73 semifinal group win over Soviet side CSKA Moscow.

Cantu took control early on in a game that was mainly defensive. That moved 15-10 ahead, and after the first quarter were firmly in command with 25 points to Milan's 18. By halftime Cantu led 29-22, and although Milan made strenuous efforts and cut back the lead in the last two quarters, Cantu held on to win.

## Off-form Howarth retained skipper

WELLINGTON, March 25 (AFP) — Geoff Howarth will lead the New Zealand cricket team on its World Cup One-Day campaign and Test match tour of England starting in June.

Howarth was named captain of the side announced here despite his recent run of poor showings with the bat. There had been little doubt the 31-year-old Surrey professional would be retained because he has an excellent Test record and is widely regarded as one of crickets most astute skippers.

There is only one notable omission from the New Zealand line-up, that of veteran batsman and spin bowler John Morrison. The team also features the return of two former international players, spinner John Bracewell and wicketkeeper Ian Smith.

There are also two new caps, spin bowler and middle-order batsman Evan Gray and opening batsman Trevor Franklin. The team for the World Cup One-Day games is: Geoffrey Howarth (captain) John Wright (vice-captain), John Bracewell, Lance Cairns, Ewen Chatfield, Jeremy Coney, Jeff Crowe,



Curren ... strikes to form

## Capitals keep in the running for playoff spot

NEW YORK, March 25 (AP) — The Washington Capitals scored four goals during a 5-33 span of the third period, two by Bob Carpenter, and came from behind to defeat the New Jersey Devils 5-3 in a National Hockey League game Thursday night. The victory gave the Capitals 91 points and a three-point lead over the New York Islanders in the battle for second place in the Patrick Division with five games remaining.

In other NHL action, Peter Stastny scored twice and assisted on two other goals to power the Quebec Nordiques to a 7-3 victory over Los Angeles, dealing another setback to the Kings' playoff hopes.

Ron Flockhart scored two goals and assisted on Paul Evans' game-winner as the Philadelphia Flyers downed the Toronto Maple Leafs 7-4. The Flyers' victory in a game that was tied three times gave them a 46-21-8 record atop the NHL's Patrick Division, while Toronto fell to 24-39-12 in the Norris Division.

Rookie Guy Carbonneau scored his 17th goal at 16:29 of the final period and added an empty net effort with 1:13 remaining to clinch a 5-3 victory for the Montreal Canadiens over the Minnesota North Stars.

Rich Middleton's third goal of the game and 46th of the season broke a 5-5 tie in the third period and the Boston Bruins skated on to a 7-6 victory over the St. Louis Blues.

Martin Crowe, Bruce Edgar, Richard Hadlee, Warren Lees, Ian Smith, Martin Snedden, and Glenn Turner.

Turner is available only for the World Cup games, while Trevor Franklin and Evan Gray will join the side for the second part of the tour only.

Meanwhile, heavy overnight and morning rain which left the Bourda ground under water in several places completely washed out the first day of the scheduled four-day match between the touring Indian cricket team and Guyana here Thursday.

It was another disappointment for Guyanese cricket fans, who missed viewing the last Indian team in the West Indies because of persistent heavy rain. On that occasion, in 1976, the Test match scheduled for Guyana was switched to Trinidad.

The rain broke a long period of dry weather in Guyana which has hosted two matches in the regional Shell Shield competition this season and the recent final of the limited overs Geddes Grant/Harrison Line Tournament without interference.

## In tourney's longest match

## Nervous Vilas gives in to Curren

MILAN, Italy, March 25 (AP) — Unseeded South African Kevin Curren upset Argentina's Guillermo Vilas in a second round match of the \$365,000 Cuore Tennis Cup Thursday night.

Curren, eliminated the second-seeded player from the Italian leg of the Grand Prix circuit in three hard-fought sets — 5-7, 6-4, 6-3. It was the longest match in the tournament so far. It lasted two hours and 51 minutes.

Curren, a doubles specialist who is doing increasingly well in singles, advanced into an all-South African quarterfinal against Eddie Edwards, who downed young American Mark Dickson 7-5, 7-6 in another action at Milan's Indoor Sports Palace.

Curren, ranked 23rd in the ATP standings, scored his first win in five clashes against the Argentine, ranked fourth in the world and winner of the Cuore Cup last year. Vilas was in trouble against the determined South African from the first set, which he managed to win breaking Curren's serve in the 12th game.

Curren relied on a powerful serve, fine volleys and backhand crossing shots and exploited some unforced mistakes by Vilas in the decisive third set. "I did not play very well and I was a bit nervous for some wrong calls by the referee in the crucial moments," Vilas said after defeat.

Curren said he was tired out after "an extremely tough match, which required a lot of concentration." "I was confident from the very beginning and my confidence grew as I realized I was playing very well and I was causing big problems to Vilas," he explained.

In other second-round matches Thursday Swedish tennisman Thomas Hogstedt scored another upset against Brazilian Marcos Hocevar. The 19-year-old Swede, a qualifier in the competition, defeated Hocevar 7-6, 6-7, 6-2. He advanced into a quarterfinal match against American Chip Hooper.

Bill Scanlon, 26, downed Australian veteran John Alexander 6-3, 6-4 in one hour and 13 minutes. In Friday's quarterfinals Scanlon plays Tomas Smid of Czechoslovakia. Top-seeded Ivan Lendl will be pitted against

Sandy Mayer of the U.S. Lendl and Mayer are the only seeded players left in the competition. Six seeded stars fell in the two first rounds.

The Czech star, the No. 1 in world rankings, is the top favorite to win Sunday's final and pocket a first prize bonus of \$70,000.

Meanwhile, persistent rains brought play in the second round of the Nice Grand Prix Tournament to an early close Thursday. But

there was time enough for Frenchman Christophe Casa to bring off a stunning upset.

Casa took the court to complete his match against top-seeded American Jimmy Arias, leading 4-2 in the decider. And he duly completed the formality for a 5-7, 7-5, 6-4 victory. In the only other match Spaniard Manuel Orantes was leading 7-6, 4-3 on center court against compatriot Juan Aguilera.

## On a day of surprises

## Hana takes set off Martina

NEW YORK, March 25 (AP) — Surviving a first-set scare, top-seeded Martina Navratilova roared from behind to oust Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia, while crowd favorite Billie Jean King upset third-seeded Andrea Jaeger in first-round matches in the \$350,000 Virginia Slims Championships of New York Thursday night.

Earlier, Sylvia Hanika of West Germany advanced into the semifinals with a 6-4, 7-5 upset of fourth-seeded Tracy Austin.

Navratilova, dropping a set for the first time in 1983, downed Mandlikova 4-6, 6-1, 6-0, and King, at 39 the oldest player in the tournament at Madison Square Garden, stopped Jaeger 5-7, 6-2, 6-2.

In other first round matches Thursday, Barbara Potter eliminated No. 6 Wendy Turnbull of Australia 6-3, 6-3 and No. 5 Pam Shriver stopped Evonne Goolagong Cawley of Australia 6-1, 6-3. Also advancing into the semifinals was second-seeded Chris Evert Lloyd, who defeated No. 7 Bettina Bunge of West Germany for the seventh straight time 6-1, 7-5.

Lloyd breezed through the first set before Bunge fought back with superb backhand shots and all-round court play in the second set. The West German saved two match points with aces before finally succumbing to Lloyd, a six-time U.S. Open singles champion.

Navratilova's victory sends her into the quarterfinals against Shriver her doubles partner and closest friend on the women's

tennis tour, and the person who upset her in the quarterfinals of the 1982 U.S. Open King will face Potter in the quarterfinals.

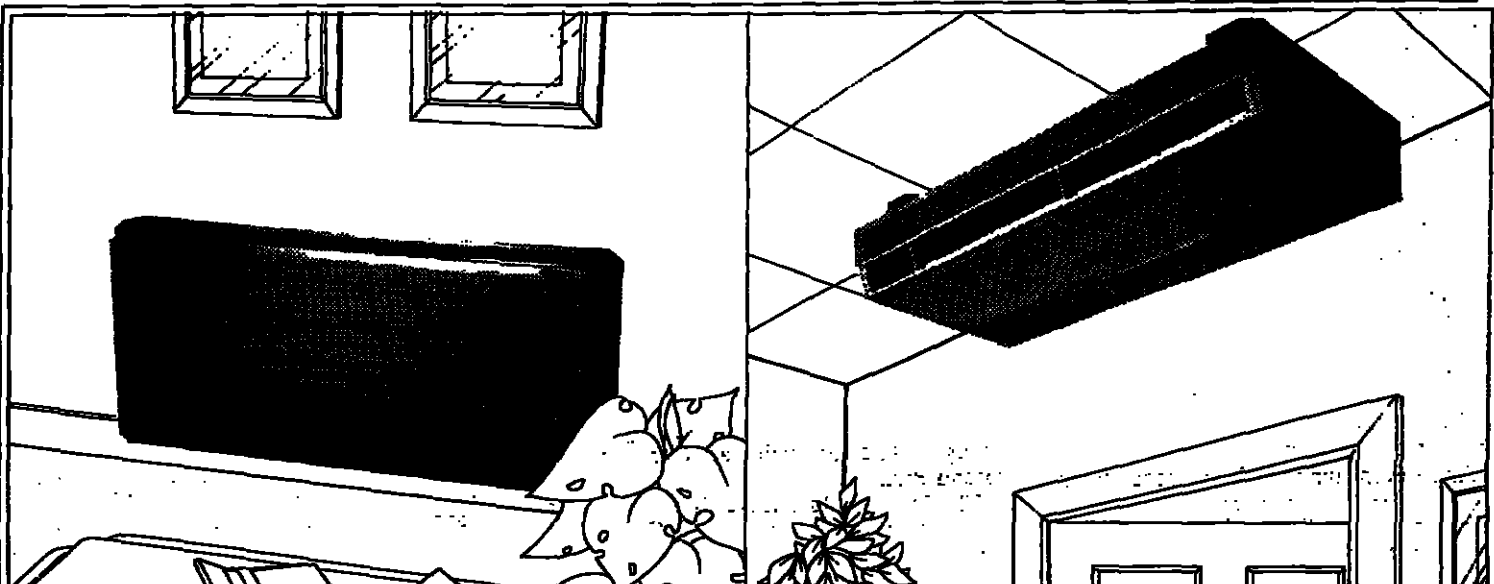
King, the veteran warrior who has won a record 20 titles at Wimbledon, delighted the crowd of 10,383 as she fought her way past a for 22 years her junior. Jaeger, who later said she was bothered by injuries, never was in the match after the first set.

Like King, Navratilova fell quickly behind, losing her serve in the first and third games as Mandlikova jumped out to a 3-0 lead. The 21-year-old Czech combined a bewildering assortment of passing shots with Navratilova's unforced errors to move out front. After handing Navratilova her first loss in 43 consecutive sets, Mandlikova broke her foe again to start the second set.

Then, as suddenly as the winning streak began, it ended. Mandlikova never won another game as the world's top-ranked women's player dominated from the baseline and at the net. Navratilova served seven aces during the match, but it was when they came that counted.

She capped her second-set victory with ace No. 5 and served the final one to end the match. Five of her seven aces came on game points. The victory was Navratilova's ninth in 12 career meetings with Mandlikova and her eighth in-a-row.

Hanika upset Navratilova in the final at Madison Square Garden a year ago when this tournament was the windup of the winter circuit.



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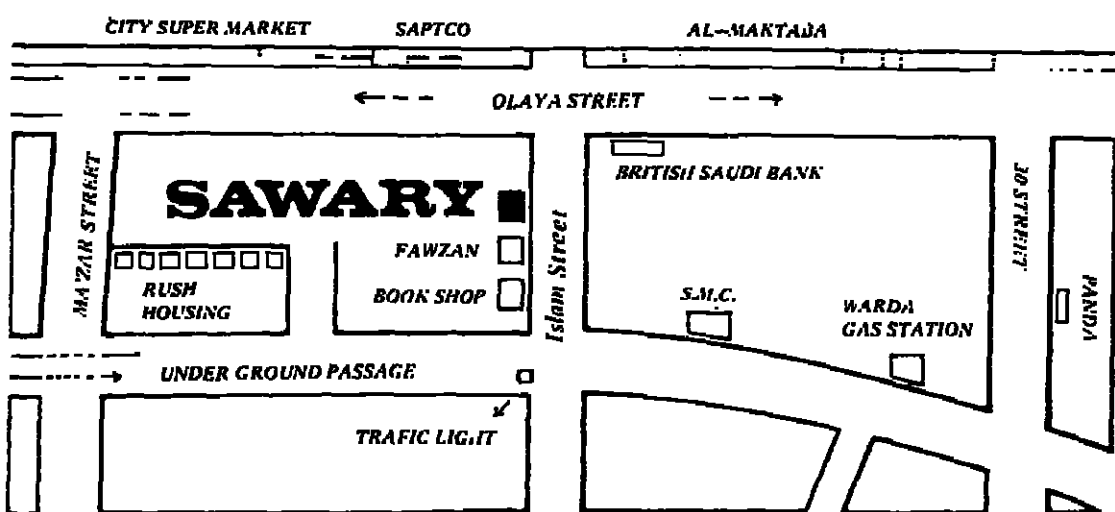
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## All-England Championships

# Fancied pairs fall like nine pins

LONDON, March 25 (AFP) — There were early surprises in the doubles events at the All-England Badminton Championships at Wembley on Thursday night. The first was the first-round elimination of the fifth-seeded pair in the men's doubles, Denmark's Steen Fladberg and Jasper Helleberg, by the Indian team of Sanat Misra and Leroy D'Sa.

The Asians recovered to score a 5-12, 15-12, 15-12 victory but then failed to capitalize on their success when they crashed out in the next round of the unseeded Chinese of Li Yongbo and Tian Bingyi. The Chinese pair won at 15-5, 15-6.

Steen Skovgaard and Jens-Pier Nierhoff of Denmark also caused an upset by knocking out the seeded South Korean pair, Joong Bongpark and Eun Ku Lee. The Asians, seeded sixth went down 17-4, 15-13.

The shocks were not only confined to the men's doubles. In the first-round of the women's doubles, the English pair Helen Troke and Karen Chapman, knocked out the No. 7 seeds, Sumiko Kitada and Shigeni Kawamura of Japan, 15-9, 15-13.

The Wembley arena will be packed Friday evening when, for the first time for over twenty years, there will be two Britons in the quarterfinals of the men's singles.

The home players are Welshman Phil Sutton, who has already knocked out eighth-seeded Li Yongbo of China, and England's Nick Yates, who, Thursday, accounted for another Chinese seed, Chen Changjie, the No. 6.

Sutton next faces Denmark's Morten Frost the defending champion, and it will be a great surprise if he makes further progress in the tournament against the in-form Dane.

To reach the semifinals, Yates will need to defeat the relatively unknown Tian Bingyi — no mean task since the Chinese player has already shown his strength by surprisingly

eliminating the No. 3 seed, Ick Sugiarto of Indonesia.

In one of the other two quarterfinals, Denmark's Jens-Pier Nierhoff, surprise conqueror of Malaysia's Misbun Sidek, the No. 7 seed, meets China's Luan Jin, the No. 4 seed, who reached the final last year before being beaten 11-15, 15-2, 15-7 by Frost.

The other quarterfinal clash is between India's Prakash Padukone, the 1980 champion and a semifinalist last year (he lost to Luan Jin), and another unseeded Dane, Kenneth Larsen. Larsen made the most of the withdrawal of the No. 2 seed Liem Swie King of Indonesia to reach the last eight.

Even if the two Britons are beaten in the

men's singles, the Wembley crowd will also have the compensation of a British quarterfinalist in the women's singles. She is Karen Beckman, a 22-year-old Surrey player who faces China's Li Lingwei, last year's runnerup to Zhang Ailing.

The only other 'non-Chinese' quarterfinalist is Denmark's Lene Koppen, the 1979 and 1980 champion and semifinalist last year (she went out to Li Lingwei). The popular Dane faces yet another Chinese girl, Xu Rong. The other quarterfinals are all-Chinese affairs between Zhang Ailing, the title-holder and Wu Dixi, and between Wu Jianqiu, a 1982 quarterfinalist, and Han Aiping.

## English Soccer

# Video firm dangles a bait

LONDON, March 25 (AFP) — A video company has offered eight million pounds for the exclusive rights to screen English Football matches over the next two seasons.

The offer was made to the league's television sub-committee and will be discussed by the full management committee next week. The money has been put up by Telejector, a video entertainment company, who are prepared to pay almost twice as much as the TV organizations.

Telejector's plan is to show recordings of matches on big screens in clubs, hospitals and schools. The huge financial bait is sure to tempt league chairmen, who last month rejected TV's latest offer of 2.6 million pounds a year for one five match a week.

Recordings of matches would be distributed to customers and shown two or three days after the matches had been played. The

Telejector equipment is capable of receiving cable or satellite transmissions, so live-coverage of matches would also be a possibility in the future.

Meanwhile, George Best has been tempted back into English soccer — by Third Division side Bournemouth whose new regime pulled off a deadline-beating transfer coup Thursday.

On a day noted in the past for its financial excess, the English Third Division club were one of the few to make a cash gamble. Best, 37 in two months time, last played in the football league in 1977 and admitted: "I will probably be one of the lowest-paid players in the league."

The day's big money deal involved another Third Division club, promotion-chasing Portsmouth, who signed Kevin Dillon from struggling First Division side Birmingham City for 200,000 pounds.

## Indira honored

NEW DELHI, March 25 (AP) — Prime Minister Indira Gandhi received the rarely bestowed gold medal of the Olympic order Friday for her services to sport.

Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), hung the gold medal around the Prime Minister's neck and said she had played a big part in the success of the Asian Games, held in New Delhi last November.

Samaranch also said that India would be capable of staging the Olympic Games. It was a welcome hint to sports officials in New Delhi, who have said they bid for the Games of 1992. The presentation took place at the formal opening of the 86th IOC session, being held in New Delhi.

Two other world leaders have received the gold medal of the Olympic order in recent years — King Olav of Norway, a former Olympics yachting medalist and a lifelong sports enthusiast, and Pope John Paul.



SHAPING UP: France's Lucien Rodriguez (right) sweats it out with trainer Gaston Micallef in preparation for the World Boxing Council bout against champion Larry Holmes in Scranton Sunday.

# Cuevas to hang his gloves

MEXICO CITY, March 25 (R) — Mexican boxer Pipino Cuevas, world welterweight champion for more than four years, announced Thursday he was retiring from the sport.

Cuevas, 25, was beaten in his last fight in January by another former champion, Roberto Duran of Panama. He lost his title against Thomas Hearns of the United States in 1980 after he had successfully defended it 11 times in just over four years.

Meanwhile, South Korea's Chang Jung-koo aims to settle an old score when he fights champion Hilario Zapata of Panama for the World Boxing Council (WBC) light-flyweight title in Taejeon Saturday.

Zapata beat Chang on points last September in his first defense of the title he took from Japan's Tadashi Tomori in July. Now Chang, whose defeat by Zapata was his only loss in 21 fights, is determined to get his revenge. "I will bite the sly Panamanian fox like a bulldog and finish him at the end," Chang said. "I don't mind being outpointed in the early rounds, but I'll batter his belly at first to crack his brittle jaw later."

Despite the 20-year-old Korean's brutal predictions, Zapata remains firm favorite to retain the title and the Panamanian, slightly taller but five years older than the challenger, believes he will win by knockout.

It is the first world title bout to be held in Korea since Korean Duk Koo Kim died from brain injuries after fighting American Ray Mancini for the World Boxing Association (WBA) lightweight title last November. All WBC title fights have been reduced from 15 to 12 rounds as a result.

Zapata has won 22 fights — 13 by knock-

out — and lost twice. Chang has won nine times by knockout in 20 wins.

**Graham-Tshinza bout**  
In London, boxing officials said Britain's Herol Graham will take on Clemente Tshinza of Luxembourg for the vacant European light-middleweight title in the next two months.

Italian holder Luigi Minichillo quit boxing two months ago, soon after Graham had been nominated as next contender by the European Boxing Union (EBU).

Graham, 23, the British and commonwealth champion, has won all his 23 fights. Zaire-born Tshinza was knocked out by British world welterweight title contender Colin Jones in December 1980.

## Jennings drops out

BELFAST, March 25 (Agencies) — Goalkeeper Pat Jennings and striker Billy Hamilton have pulled out of Northern Ireland's 16-strong squad for the European Soccer Championship Group Six qualifying match against Turkey here next Wednesday.

Jennings, who has a bruised foot, was almost certain to win his 96th cap after being omitted from the previous championship games against Austria, West Germany and Albania. Jim Platt will keep his place. Hamilton injured an ankle in training Thursday.

West Germany too may miss star midfielder Bernd Schuster in their vital qualifying match against Albania in Tirana, next Wednesday.

# Cardinals stage fine comeback

NEW YORK, March 25 (AP) — For the first time in 24 years, cross-state rivals Kentucky and Louisville are going to get together on the basketball court.

That matchup was assured Thursday night when the schools, whose campuses are just 80 miles apart, advanced to Saturday's final round of the National College Athletic Association (NCAA) Tournament's Midwest regional at Knoxville, Tennessee.

Melvin Turpin scored 16 points and 12th-ranked Kentucky survived a late Indiana rally and trimmed the No. 5 Hoosiers 64-59. Then, Scooter McCray's tip-in at the buzzer capped Louisville's comeback from a 16-point first-half deficit and gave the second-rated Cardinals a 65-63 triumph over No. 9 Arkansas.

In the West regional at Ogden, Utah, fourth-ranked Virginia, playing without All-American center Ralph Sampson for more than 12 minutes of the second half, held off Boston College 95-92 and 16th-ranked North Carolina State trounced Utah 75-56.

Kentucky, turning in one of its finest shows of the season, sped to a 57-47 lead over Indiana's Big Ten champions with 8:31 remaining. The Hoosiers cut it down with 2:49 remaining, but Kentucky's Dirk Minnie field scored one of two free throws with 35 seconds to go and Charles Hurt wrapped it up with two free throws with 21 seconds left.

In the second game McCray's tip-in came after Louisville's third missed shot in the final 11 seconds. McCray and Lancaster Gordon sparked the rally that produced Louisville's 15th victory in a row. Arkansas reeled off 16 straight points — eight by Darrell Walker — during a span of just under seven minutes in the opening half to take a 35-19 lead.

Louisville closed to 61-59 with 4:51 left on McCray's two free throws and pulled even when Lancaster Gordon stole a pass and hit a layup with 3:03 to go. Baskets by Arkansas' Joe Kleine and Louisville's Gordon made it 63-63.

Hot-shooting North Carolina State routed Utah behind Derek Whittenburg's 27 points and a career-high 18 by Lorenzo Charles. The N.C. State hit 11 of their first 14 shots in the second half — 28 of 41 overall — in moving a two-point deficit to an eventual 20-point lead. During a nine-minute stretch in the second half, N.C. State outscored the Utes 20-5.

Virginia's Sampson, who picked up his fourth personal foul in the opening seconds of the second half, still scored 19 points and was a dominating force inside. But he had plenty of help from his teammates, including Rick Carlisle, who led the Cavaliers with 22 points, including 16 in the second half and six straight free throws in the final 27 seconds when Boston College trimmed a 14-point deficit to three.

# An ace up Piquet's sleeve

LONG BEACH, March 25 (AFP) — The Brabham team have developed a new gadget for Nelson Piquet's car to help the Brazilian overtake his rivals around the streets of Long Beach in Sunday's United States West Grand Prix.

Piquet will be able to increase the turbo-charge on his Brabham BMW engine to help him whizz past his rival and he can reduce the charge again afterward to limit stress on the engine. The 1981 world champion is confident the little device is just what he needs to ensure his second successive victory in the new world championship season.

He believes Brabham's new gadget and their success with mid-race refueling and tire changing has given him a head start on the other competitors. "Frankly, I think the Brazilian Grand Prix was the easiest victory of my career," he said.

"And I even think the Long Beach track will support my car more than the Jacarepagua circuit," he added, confounding beliefs that the twists and turns would favor the lighter but slower non-turbo cars. "The

only problem will be the fact that it is very difficult to overtake here."

If Brabham's gadget is a success, it will be a further blow to Keke Rosberg of Finland, who is hoping to make use of his atmospheric-engined Saudia-Williams to avenge his disqualification from the Brazilian event on March 13.

Two Americans will also try to bag the Grand Prix. In 1960 Phil Hill was the first American driver to win the World Formula One drivers' championship. It was another 18 years before Mario Andretti brought the title to the United States for the second time. Since then no American has won a Grand Prix.

But the 1983 championship sees two U.S. nationals — Eddie Cheever and Danny Sullivan — determined to end that long period drought. And they will start with Sunday's Grand Prix.

The 25-year-old Cheever is no newcomer to the high speed world of the Grand Prix circuits, but this year he is driving for a more competitive team, Renault of France.

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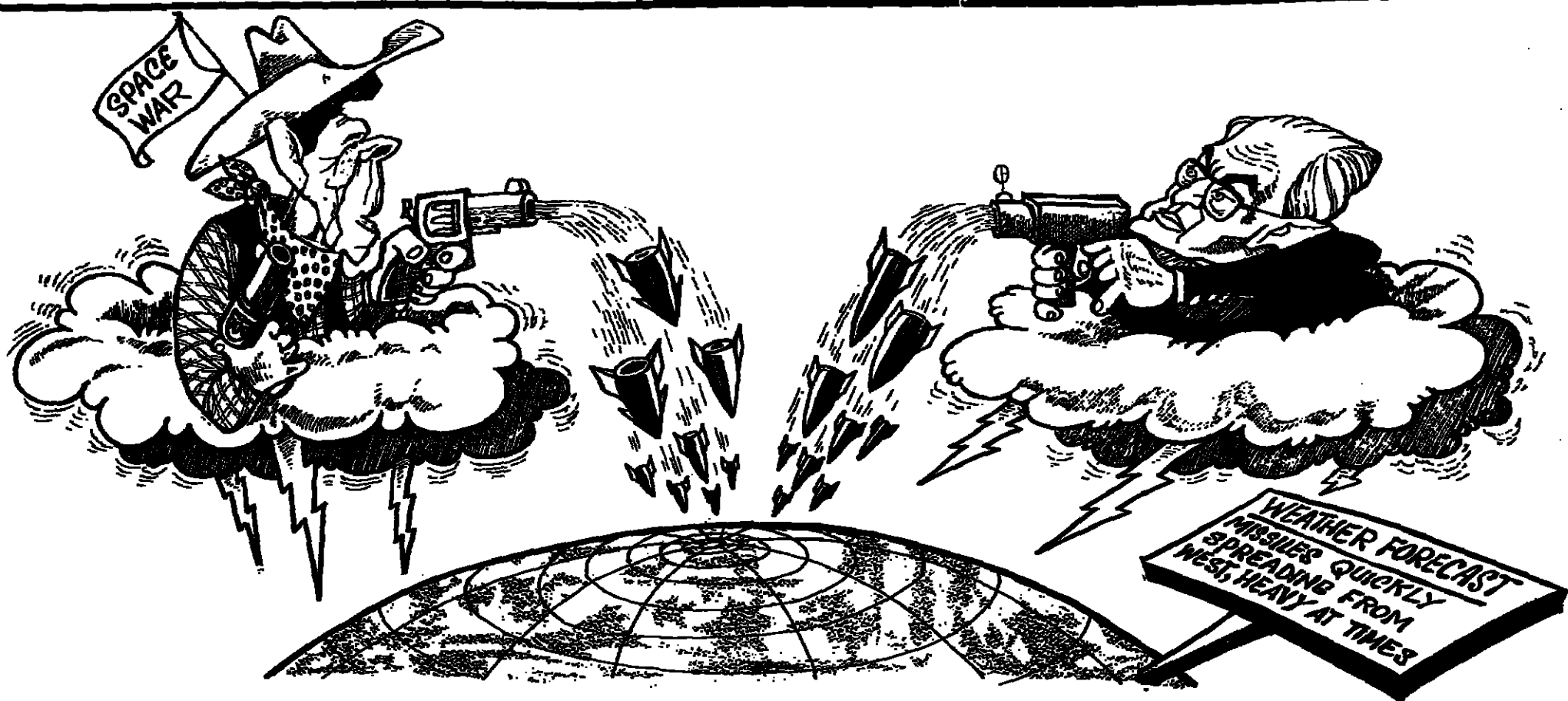
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## Delors emerges key figure in French shake-up

By Jeffrey Ullrich

PARIS —  
Though Premier Pierre Mauroy retained the top job after this week's shake-up of the French cabinet, it was Jacques Delors, the 57-year-old finance minister, who emerged as the Socialist government's key figure.

At the other end of the scale, Research and Industry Minister Jean-Pierre Chevenement, 44, and not so long ago seen as a political comer, disappeared from the government after a serious disagreement with President Francois Mitterrand. As France struggles to right a seriously listing economy, Mitterrand appears to have designated Mauroy as the coach of a new, tightly knit 15-man cabinet and turned to Delors to lead the team through the tough days ahead.

Delors, a long-time technocrat and former high official at the Bank of France, has been minister of economy and finance since the Socialists and Communists came to power in spring of 1981. In the latest cabinet shuffle, he also took over responsibility for the budget, which had been a separate post.

Delors, together with Pierre Berezgoy, minister of social affairs, is at the top of the new cabinet list right after Mauroy, an indication of the importance Mitterrand attaches to his economic team in the face of a barrage of negative economic figures and the third devaluation of the franc in 17 months.

The president, in his televised speech Wednesday night, said the major issue facing France today is the three-front battle against unemployment, inflation and foreign trade deficits.

There also are indications that Mauroy, who had said he would not preside over a third devaluation of the franc and is particularly uncomfortable with a policy of rigor and austerity, is content to let these two "superministers" assume responsibility for new, unpopular policies. The tenor of those policies is expected to be announced after a special session of the new cabinet.

Berezgoy, whose Ministry of Social Affairs involves such things as the national health service, retirement and aid to the handicapped and disadvantaged, said Thursday he also will assume responsibility for health, labor and employment, though he will be assisted by deputy ministers. Both men are close to Mitterrand and his support no

doubt will be important in helping them to defeat currents within the Socialist Party and from the Communists opposed to austerity. The leftist daily *Le Martin* even went so far as to characterize Delors as the new "vice premier."

Delors is an economist and long-time adviser to Mitterrand who once worked on the staff of Gaullist Premier Jacques Chaban-Delmas before joining the Socialist Party. Berezgoy, 57, started in Mitterrand's government in a non-ministerial post as secretary-general to the presidency. He joined the cabinet in 1982.

Chevenement, a former trade specialist in the diplomatic service, was a national secretary of the Socialist Party and Mitterrand's political adviser during the 1981 presidential campaign. It was he who authored the "Socialist project" which became Mitterrand's election platform.

Chevenement is a leader of the Ceres group which is the left wing of the Socialist Party. He had been one of the president's closest confidants and as minister of research and industry, was charged with overseeing Mitterrand's nationalization program. But it was mainly his dealings with the nationalized companies that eventually led to disgrace and

downfall. After the announcement of the new cabinet Tuesday night, when Chevenement's name was conspicuously missing, he released a surprise statement saying he had 20 days earlier submitted his resignation to the president "following disagreements that had appeared about the methods and conception of government action."

Chevenement, also a proponent of withdrawal from the European Monetary System and adoption of further protectionist measures, apparently succeeded in irritating the president on several occasions. After a group of directors of nationalized companies lunched with Mitterrand in January and complained about Chevenement's interference, the president issued a public rebuke, warning against "excessive bureaucracy" and meddling in industrial affairs.

Chevenement also clashed publicly with Delors over the industry minister's idea for creation of a nationalized investment bank, something Delors regarded as unnecessary. In the end, he lost, and saw his ministry turned over to the sharp, 36-year-old Laurent Fabius, another Mitterrand protégé whose budget ministry went to Delors. (AP)

## Helmut Kohl asserts, skillfully outmaneuvers Strauss

By Geoffrey Atkins

BONN —  
West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, seriously underestimated by friend and foe, has emerged as the dominant figure from talks on his new coalition government.

He has shaped his new three-party team in record time and skillfully outmaneuvered his right-wing Bavarian rival, Franz Josef Strauss, political analysts and commentators said. This represents a remarkable transformation in Kohl, who just over a month ago was being referred to by officials of his Christian Democratic (CDU) Party as a political liability during the campaign for the March 6 general elections.

Kohl's often stiff and colorless image was blamed for the revival of the opposition Social Democrats (SPD) under their articulate and self-confident candidate for chancellor, Hans-Jochen Vogel.

Political analysts say Kohl has quickly shown who is boss since his election victory, when the CDU and its fellow conservative Christian Social Union (CSU) led by Strauss almost won an overall majority.

When the 67-year-old Strauss made his surprise demand for a post in the new cabinet just before coalition talks started on March 14, it seemed that Kohl was in for a real battle. It was hard to resist Strauss' claim that as chairman of the CSU, which after the elections replaced the liberal Free Democrats (FDP) as the second largest coalition party, he should naturally be allowed to pick his own post in the government. It was no secret that he wanted the foreign minister's job held by the FDP's leader Hans-Dietrich Genscher since 1974.

But not only did Kohl stand firmly behind Genscher, he also told Strauss he could not have either of the other two ministries he fancied —

economics or finance. Strauss announced last Monday that he would remain as state premier in Bavaria, an office which he said was more important than any of the Bonn ministries available to him, even with the additional position of vice chancellor offered by Kohl. His comment convinced few outside Bavaria.

Not only did Kohl make it plain he could not have his pick of cabinet posts but he also told Strauss he would not tolerate delaying tactics interfering with his schedule formal election as chancellor by the Bundestag (lower house) on March 29, political sources said.

Strauss presented a 27-page document demanding a right-wing turn in foreign policy, notably in eastern Europe and Africa, but Kohl and Genscher steered the negotiations away from details. Throughout, the irrepressible Genscher quietly taunted Strauss, knowing that Kohl's policy was to fend him off by asserting that the electorate had

voted for a continuation of "a coalition of the center," analysts said.

With the issue resolved, the coalition parties concluded their negotiations after only seven days of negotiations — the speediest on record according to veteran political observers. Although important foreign policy differences remain between Strauss and Genscher, Kohl has succeeded in getting the three parties to ratify agreements on broad policy outlines.

Strauss has said he will continue to play an essential role in the government. But analysts said that with the three parties agreed on general policy, he will have less room to maneuver.

The general secretary of his Christian Socialist Union, Edmund Stoiber, claimed "magnificent results" for his party in the coalition in that it now has five ministers against the FDP's three. But the party emerged with few plums. (R)

## Andropov yet to make up mind on reforms

MOSCOW —

After nearly five months of Yuri Andropov, the Soviet people are still not sure in which direction their new Communist Party chief plans to lead them.

Foreign Andropov-watchers are equally uncertain whether the 68-year-old former security police boss can force through domestic changes, and more important, whether he really wants to. Andropov, when he was appointed party general secretary in succession to Leonid Brezhnev last November, gave the impression of a man determined to get the country moving again after a period of stagnation.

But despite an initial flurry of dismissals, the pace of change has been far slower than most people expected. Compared with his predecessor, Andropov shuns the limelight — a paradox in a political system where high visibility has traditionally been a sign of power. Some foreign analysts believe he has run up against limits to extending his personal authority, citing as proof his failure to assume the still-vacant office of Soviet head of

state. These analysts argue that Andropov's plans for change have been blocked by Politburo colleagues who prefer the status quo of the Brezhnev era. Others believe that Andropov is merely taking his time, and that the Soviet political process makes no provision for the kind of dynamic "first hundred days" which newly elected American presidents traditionally promise.

There are some who believe, on the evidence of Andropov's first few months, that he has no real desire to reform the existing system and that his relatively advanced age will make him a caretaker leader in Soviet history. Soviet officials and ordinary citizens tend to project their own wishful thinking onto Andropov and see him in various guises. Some see him as a strong leader in the Russian tradition, who will bring back law and order and crack down on crime and corruption. Others see him as a closet liberal who will introduce Hungarian-style reforms and make the Soviet economy work more rationally.

Ideological conservatives, on the other hand, see him as a man who will uphold the importance of Marxist-Leninist theory against pragmatic reformers. Andropov's first policy step was to launch a campaign for tighter work discipline, reinforcing his image as a hard-line supporter of law and order. The campaign struck a popular chord at first but was soon scaled back.

The party magazine *Kommunist* this month criticized managers who had adopted "punitive measures" against first-time offenders instead of trying to educate them. "This is a policeman's approach to the problems of the Soviet economy and cannot produce any lasting results," one foreign diplomat commented.

Andropov has also launched a drive for greater ideological conformity in the arts, especially in the theater, but Soviet cultural figures say they are used to such campaigns and see no real threat of a lasting crackdown.

In agriculture, there are signs that Andropov has by contrast decided to force through a radical policy

initiative which could have long-lasting results. On the Soviet Union's giant collective and state farms, production will be subcontracted to work gangs ranging in size from three or four to 100 persons.

This system has existed successfully in some areas for years, but there has been strong resistance to it from farm bosses and bureaucrats. The system is supposed to improve output by 20 to 30 percent and cut costs because the work gangs are paid according to the amount of grain or milk they produce.

The new policy, more radical than the "food program" approved by the party leadership last May under Brezhnev, clearly has Andropov's backing. The party leader, however, has so far left the main role in announcing it to Mikhail Gorbachov, the central committee secretary for agriculture.

As far as the rest of the economy is concerned, the signs are that Andropov has yet to make up his mind whether major reforms are needed. Under Brezhnev, even the word "reform" was banned from the official vocabulary in favor of "further perfection" and other euphemisms. (R)

### Philippines' progress

Sir,  
My countryman J. Nicdao (*Arab News*, March 16) has written about conditions in the Philippines. While I appreciate his initiative in informing our countrymen in the Kingdom on what he alleges is happening there, I cannot keep silent as a Filipino and wish to challenge what he has written to remove the notion that the great majority of the Filipinos are living under deplorable and extremely depressed conditions.

Mr. Nicdao has belittled and mocked the program of development of President Marcos and highlighted the foreign debts of the Philippines under his administration, as if it is a problem only for the Philippines, showing his lack of knowledge of international affairs.

While President Marcos may have committed some excesses, the fact remains that he has initiated infrastructure projects in Metro Manila and other regions in the Philippines more than any of his predecessors. He has given greater impetus to the land reform program designed to give the poor farmers lands of their own to remove the shackles of economic bondage that had stunted their economic growth for centuries. It would be unfair to say that these "grandiose" projects came into being just to cater to the "whims and caprices of the rich."

A greater majority of the Filipinos especially

those living in the rural areas, are benefited directly or indirectly by this program of development. They would, like myself, disagree with Mr. Nicdao, for they are enjoying the boons of rural electrification, irrigation, more roads and bridges, health center, liberal credit facilities, cottage industries, increased food production, speedy travel and communication.

One has only to visit the rural areas in the Philippines and see for himself how the common Filipino lives in peace and contentment. This is a far cry from their living conditions of the past. If this is not enough, let the visitor go to Manila, the capital, and other urban areas, where recreation centers and supermarkets are filled with people relaxing and enjoying life. These would rebut what Mr. Nicdao had written.

The Philippines is not the only country in the world which is saddled with debts. Mexico, Venezuela and other oil producing countries in Africa, Middle East, Europe and the East, and other developing countries of the world, are also indebted to world banking institutions to the tune of billions of dollars. As a matter of fact, some of them have applied or are applying to reschedule payments because of financial difficulties. Happily, the Philippines has not used this option. Indeed, the Philippines and other countries similarly situated, have to make the sacrifice for this as the price of progress. They have to resort to foreign credit primarily to improve their economies, strengthen their defenses against foreign aggression to keep

freedom alive and secure, and to be able to meet mounting public expenditures, engendered by increasing population. The willingness of the U.S., the World Bank-IMF and other foreign lenders to extend additional loans to the Philippines is incontrovertible proof that they have complete faith in the future of the Philippines and in its ability to repay its loans within the time frame.

Mr. Nicdao and I did not flee to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to work just to keep our families "alive." "To keep our families alive" implies extreme difficulties, nay, perhaps near absence of the basic necessities to sustain life. If this is so, then why would our countrymen in the Philippines who are not abroad, chose to remain and work there? The reason is simple. They are contented to work in the Philippines, and live within their means comfortably without starving. Mr. Nicdao and I "fled" to Saudi Arabia because we have grandiose plans for the future of our respective families which can only be realized in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia because of greater employment opportunities. This is not because of extreme economic difficulties.

The Philippines is not yet experiencing soup lines. A Filipino would only starve in his own land if he does not want to help himself. No one gets starved in the Philippines if he is resourceful and willing to work.

Carl Gerona  
Riyadh

### IDEA BIRTHDAY

Today is Saturday, March 26, the 85th day of 1983. There are 280 days left in the year.  
Highlights in history on this date:  
1820 — Individual liberties are curtailed in France.  
1884 — Charles III, Duke of Parma, is murdered.  
1895 — Japan occupies Pescadore Islands in Formosa Strait.  
1913 — More than 1,400 persons perish in floods in Ohio, Indiana and Texas in the United States.  
1933 — Portugal adopts new constitution.  
1953 — U.S. Dr. Jonas Salk announces new vaccine to immunize against polio.  
1962 — Communist regime of China conducts word-of-mouth campaign of criticism of Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev and other Soviet leaders.  
1977 — Pakistan is reported verging on civil war as President Yahya Khan outlaws Awami League.  
1979 — First Middle East peace treaty in modern history is signed between Egypt's President Anwar Sadat and Israel's Prime Minister Menahem Begin.  
Thought for today:  
Love's like measles — all the worse when it comes late in life—Douglas Jerrold, English writer (1803-1857).

سكوت الاحول



## Strong Islamic imprint in body politic

## Bangladesh: the land of sublime grace, mellow fruitfulness

Special to Arab News

DHAKA — Bangladesh is a land of scenic beauty. This green country spreads between the eastern Himalayas and the Bay of Bengal like a many-splendored tapestry. Bangladesh which over the centuries has witnessed many convulsions and rebellions, endless battles against political and mercantile marauders, and nature's ravages and man-made calamities became independent in 1971.

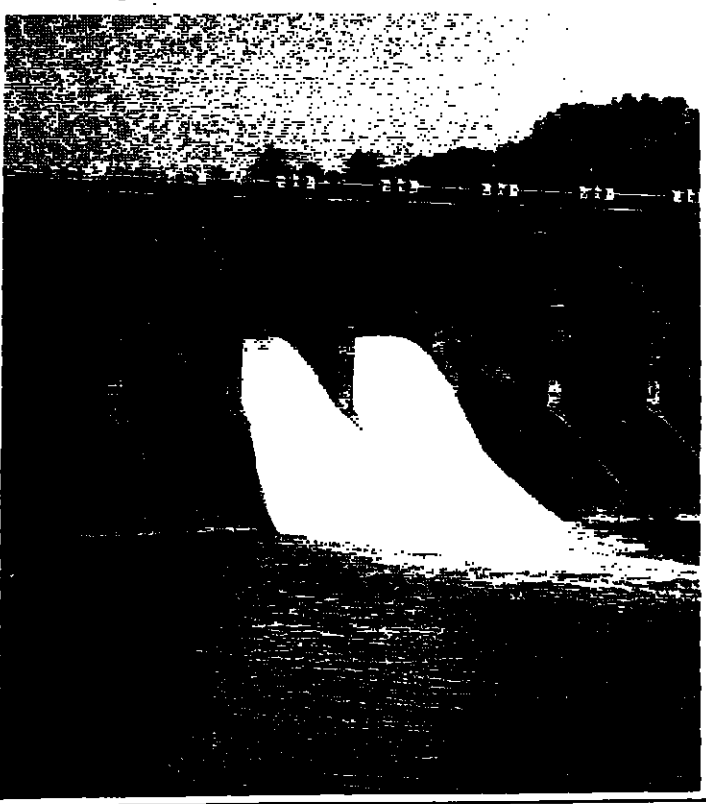
The first to settle in this ancient land was the Austro-Asians to be followed by the Dravidian migrants from West India. Subsequent centuries saw the Aryans pouring into this tranquil plains and founding settlements. After the Aryans, came the Mongolians from Tibet and Burma. Then came the Arabs, the Persians, the Turks and the Afghans. And finally, the Portuguese, and the English. The land of Bangladesh absorbed everyone and from a savant to an invader, from a pirate to a colonial settler, everyone, was transformed, as if by the touch of a magic wand, to become part of a homogenous monolingual people imbued with the rare quality of forbearance, love and compassion. No other land in the world has ever blended so many different peoples and their diverse cultures to produce so singular a nation.

Except for some hill formations in the eastern region, almost the entire land mass of 55,126 square miles of the country can be called flat and alluvial. A delta of the mighty Ganges-Brahmaputra system of rivers, Bangladesh with its green and yellow paddy fields, clusters of homesteads shadowed by big sprawling trees and stretches of mighty rivers with boats donning colorful sails is a land of sublime grace and mellow fruitfulness.

Located in the northeastern region of the South Asian subcontinent and bounded by India on three sides — east, north and west — and by Burma on the southeast, Bangladesh is the largest deltaic region in the world. In the south lies the Bay of Bengal and to the



FISHING: Rivers form an important part of the physical environment of Bangladesh providing cheap means of transport and an abundant supply of fish. Fishing in rivers and ponds is a common feature of life. Below: Dam on the Karnaphuli River, the source of the only hydroelectric project in the country.



northeast lies the broad mass of the Assam Range on the Shillong plateau. The Himalayas lie close to the boundary in the northwest. More than 85 percent of the area is flat alluvial plain crisscrossed by the mighty Padma, Meghna, Jamuna and their innumerable tributaries and distributaries. These rivers are an important part of the physical environment of Bangladesh and play a very significant role in the life of the people. They provide cheap means of transport, serve as drainage channels and ensure an abundant supply of fish. These rivers, above all, deposit on the land every year an enormous quantity of fertilizing sand and silt.

Apart from the forested hill tracts along the eastern borders, the southwestern part is covered by the dense tropical forest, the Sundarbans, known for its natural beauty and wildlife.

Primarily a rural country, 85 percent of the population of Bangladesh live in villages. Agriculture is the main occupation of the people. Despite recurring natural disasters the land is endowed with fertility yields. Tillers roll in hopes that swing around the spike of paddy, the stalk of bean and the stick of jute. Bangladesh is the producer of the world's finest quality jute varieties. There are 77 jute mills in the country.

Tea comes next to jute in importance as an exportable farm produce. The lower slopes of the hills in Sylhet and Chittagong offer ideal conditions for production of tea. There are 151 tea gardens in the country growing over 82 million pounds of tea a year for home consumption and export. The northern and northeastern areas of the country produce a special variety of tobacco. Varieties of pulses, sugarcane and various seasonal fruits and vegetables are also grown in large quantities in all parts of the country. Bangladesh has recently emerged as a sugar-exporting country.

More than 90 percent of Bangladesh's 90 million are Muslims. Islam's earlier contacts with Bangladesh date back as far as 7th century when Arab traders visited the coastal areas of south India and east-southern Bengal. Along with these traders came innumerable Muslim missionaries, who spread throughout the length and breadth of the country. A group of Islamic preachers led by Hadrat Mamun and Hadrat Muhaimen visited Bengal during the Caliphate of Umar Faruk. Another group, consisting of Hadrat Hamiduddin, Hadrat Hasem Uddin, Hadrat Murtaza, Hadrat Abdullah and Hadrat Abu Taleb, soon followed them. Five such groups came to Bangladesh one after another.

These preachers lived in villages and tried to preach Islam in the native language of the people as far as possible. They led a simple life, stood by the oppressed people of this country in their joy and sorrow and demonstrated a human brotherhood quite new to the caste-ridden society. The teeming millions accepted the new faith in hundreds and thousands. All this began to happen long before Muslim rule was established in this country. It was mainly the simple and idealistic life of these missionaries and their sincere humanitarian services which attracted the suffering humanity to the new religion.

To quote T.V. Arnold, "in Bengal the Muslim missionaries were welcomed with open arms by the aborigines and the low castes on the very outskirts of Hinduism, despised and condemned by their proud Aryan rulers. To these poor people, fishermen, hunters, pirates and low caste tillers of the soil, Islam came as a revelation from on high."

**The Preaching of Islam.** There lies a long gap of 1,400 years between the day Islam made its first contact with Bengal up to the emergence of Bangladesh as the second largest Muslim state of the world in 1971. And this long course of Bangladesh history has always been influenced by Islam in one way or the other. The Bangladesh that we see today is much more a creation of Islam than of any other force or factor. Although Muslim rule lasted over this territory for much shorter period than in many other lands of the world, Islam has penetrated quite deeply into the body politic of Bangladesh.

This will explain why religious values and institutions continue to play a vital role in shaping the cultural heritage of Bangladesh. The society in Bangladesh has grown around mosques built up spontaneously by people through their voluntary efforts. Early Muslim preachers who spread the message of Islam from their Khanas encouraged the setting up of mosques, Madrasas, Musafirkhanas (free rest houses for travelers) and Langarkhanas (free kitchens for the poor). Ancient mosques, and monuments of historic importance abound in Bangladesh and are still considered the spiritual nerve centers of the nation. Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh which was built during the rule of Mogul Emperor Jahangir, is virtually a city of mosques.

During the Muslim rule which ran into almost six hundred years the people of the soil lived most happily and the fame of their prosperity spread throughout the length and breadth of the globe. Sonargaon of Bangladesh provide the best institution for Hadith education in the thirteenth century at a time when it did not exist even in Delhi. Muslim, the famous linen, produced during Muslim rule was exported even to Europe. Sultan Giasuddin Azam Shah, the ruler of Bengal sent monetary aid to Arabia. Muslim preachers established their base in Bangladesh for preaching Islam in southeast Asian countries like Malacca (Malaysia) and Java (Indonesia).

Bangladesh people's sense of solidarity with the Muslim world has been quite deep and abiding. During the Balkan war when Turkey faced one of the most crucial phases of her history Bangladeshi poet Syed Ismail Hossain Shirazi led a volunteer corps in aid of Turkey. Bangladesh has always given unhesitating support to the Palestinian cause. Bangladeshis have fought stoutly shoulder to shoulder with their Arab brothers in different wars against Israel.

Bangladesh people's deep attachment to all that is Islamic has been reflected in their literature as well. It may be recalled that the Bengali language and literature in its infancy got maximum Patronage from Muslim rulers and preachers. They did at a time when Hindu priests and intellectuals tried their best to impose Sanskrit on the unwilling masses at the cost of their mother tongue, Bengali.

This, then, is the heritage of Islam which Bangladesh is carrying forward with great pride and deep faith.

## Spanish on the way out in Philippines

By Miguel C. Breb

MANILA (AP) — Philippine officials are debating whether to repeal or retain a law that requires college students to study Spanish — a language few Filipinos ever learn to speak.

The debate itself is being carried on in either English or Filipino, which have conquered the language Spain tried to impose during 300 years of colonization.

Spanish remains an official language and has been required in schools since 1952, but is now rarely used except by the country's oldest aristocracy.

President Ferdinand E. Marcos' cabinet last week proposed to retain Spanish as a mandatory subject in law, diplomacy and history but would make it optional in commerce, medicine and other sciences. The compromise was worked out after the National Assembly's education committee tabled a bill to repeal the 1952 law requiring all college students to complete 12 units of Spanish.

The law adds an extra linguistic burden in a country where literacy is high and where every educated person speaks at least two and more likely three languages — English, Filipino, and the native tongue.

While the compromise is expected to be popular with the country's more than one million college students, it does not please local Hispanists, who view the compulsory lessons as the government's only contribution to preserving the Philippines' Spanish roots.

"This is a sugar-coated way of doing away with Spanish," says Guillermo Gomez Riv-

era, vice president of the 4,000-strong National Federation of Professors in Spanish. "It fools no one. It is a very bad move which will have repercussions in the Spanish-speaking world."

Amelita Cahuya, a fourth-year journalism student at the University of Santo Tomas, welcomed the government's proposal as "the practical thing to do."

"The country was under Spain for more than 300 years," she said. "Isn't that enough? It's about time we did away with this baggage. It's irrelevant. Who needs Spanish? I hate it and most other students also detest it."

Like millions of Filipinos forced to study Spanish before her, Miss Cahuya hasn't acquired any proficiency in the language. And even if she had, she'd find little opportunity or need to use it.

Of the 50 million Filipinos, only about 750,000 speak Spanish. Most Filipinos communicate in English or Filipino, both mandatory subjects from grade school through college, or through dozens of local dialects.

Spain ruled the Philippines from the middle of the 16th century until the turn of the 19th, when it ceded the islands to the United States following the Spanish-American War. When Washington granted the Philippines independence in 1946, English had uprooted Spanish.

Substantial traces of Spanish, however, remain in words borrowed by the dialects, folk dances, the country's architecture and even its food. Most Filipinos also bear Spanish names as do many of their towns and provinces.

Despite their dwindling numbers, Hispanics still wield a mighty influence. They include some of the country's most successful businessmen who find allies in the embassies of Spain and Latin American countries.

The 1973 revised Philippine constitution did away with Spanish as an official language. But diplomatic strings were pulled and within months Marcos issued a decree reinstating Spanish as the third official language.

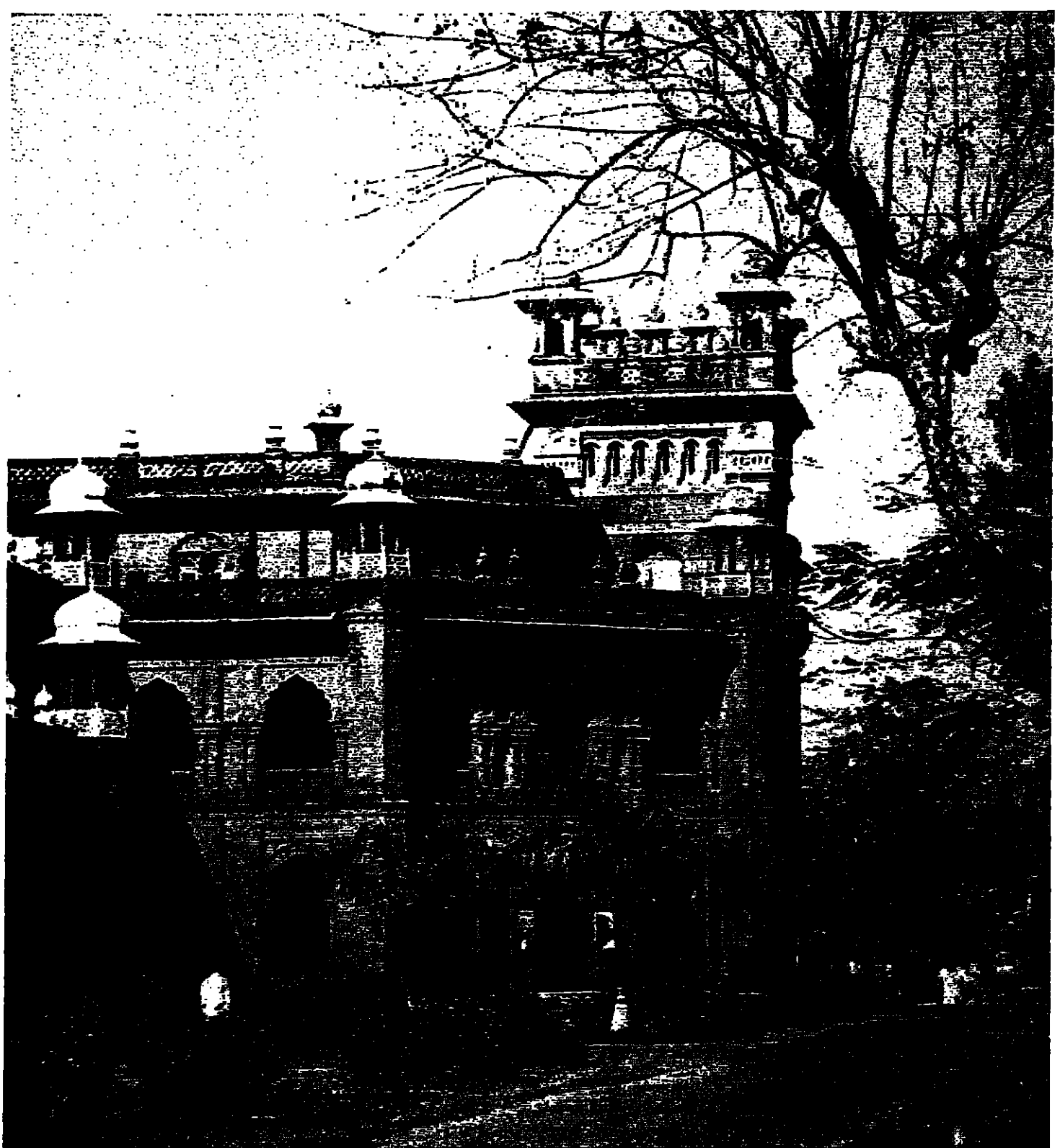
Marcos said many vital documents, including land deeds and historical accounts, would have to be translated before Spanish could be dropped.

In announcing the proposed new legislation, Education Minister Onofre D. Corpuz said it would include unspecified measures to strengthen Spanish teaching.

Neither Spanish nor Latin American diplomats have had any official comment on the proposed change although the government claims they are enthusiastic about the prospects of improving the quality of Spanish instruction.

Some observers feel a repeal of the law would cause a lessening of Latin American affection for the Philippines, which is based partly on the prominence Spanish is given under Philippine law.

"On the one hand, the compromise would seem better for Spanish, but on the other, you can't really tell what the future of Spanish will be in this country," said a diplomat from a Spanish-speaking country who declined to be identified. "At least they're keeping Spanish in some courses," she said adding "It would be nice if the law were retained."



FACULTY: Called Curzon Hall, this is the science faculty of the University of Dhaka which, in keeping with the objectives of national policy, has been trying to create an effective technological base in the country.

## LBJ's knack for appointments recalled

By Grace Halsell

Special to the Arab News

WASHINGTON — Increasingly, it seems, people want to know more about Lyndon Baines Johnson. Several books have recently been released, at least one of them a best seller in the United States. As a footnote to history, I would like to suggest that no president, Republican or Democrat, probably ever interviewed a candidate for a job like the late President Johnson. James McGregor Burns, the historian, once told President Johnson that his presidential appointments would win high marks for excellence from historians. I hope they do. I also feel that the president's techniques in personnel recruitment were so unusual that they are worthy of being recorded.

I am not sure what I expected when, without calculation or design, I became a candidate for a White House appointment. What standards would be applied, what catechism would confront me, I found hard to imagine. Civil Service Chairman John Macy had not chosen me from among 10,000,000 to be representative woman in the White House, nor had my name, so far as I knew, been submitted to any computer's test. As a single woman who free-lanced her way around the world — living, for awhile, on a Chinese junk and a tug on the Amazon and consorting with some odd and wondrous types — I had presumed that the president would subject me to an ordeal of character analysis and stern scrutiny.

I sensed that my talents, my dedication to public service, my loyalty to the country and president and my enthusiasm for the Great Society would undergo thorough inquiry. As a reporter on the White House beat, I had seen the president size up other men.

My "Call" to High Duty came like this: One minute till ten on a warm Saturday morning in August 1965, my apartment phone rang. It was Jim Jones, then assistant to Presidential Special Assistant Marvin Watson. Could I be at the White House at 11:17 a.m. at the White House southeast gate by 10:40 a.m., which gave me time to stroll in a nearby park, briefly, comparing my disordered thoughts and spirit.

Walking into Watson's office I heard him say: "He wants to see you." The "HE" was reverently capitalized in in Watson's voice. Soon, I heard a door open and the words — "Come in, Sister," and I reflected on his use of the word "Sister." He led me into his smallest of offices, an anteroom off the corridor leading to the famous Oval office, and dubbed by some of his aides as a "Think Tank."

I sat on a small sofa, opposite the president, seated in a large green executive chair that moved on rollers. We were "eyeball to eyeball," and I reminded myself to try not to blink. "My people tell me..." he began. I made a mental note to let him do most of the talking and this I since learned was what would most naturally transpire.

His "people" had told him they wanted me to work as a writer at the White House. His "people" were for the most part, in this case, Horace Busby, a speech writer. Then I heard a barrage of questions fired as from an automatic rifle.

"Where were you born — ?"

This was the first question I always asked

Texas servicemen when I interviewed them by the thousands overseas, in preparing "home town" stories for a dozen Texas papers. The editors would take almost any story, just so it was about a Texan.

We got past Lubbock, the *Avance-Journal*, the Fort Worth *Star-Telegram* and on to the Houston *Post* and the Washington Bureau. He was particularly interested in how many people Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby, the owner of the *Post*, kept in Washington.

Like most Americans, he seemed intrigued with quantity rather than quality. Then:

"How old are you — ?"

I lopped off one year, then realized I shouldn't be lying to the president.

"Are you married — ?"

Hardly waiting for the "no" he rushed on: "What are your problems?"

At that particular moment I felt I was an uncomplicated happy person who had no problems, and in this vein I replied.

"Are you in love — ?" came next. While I stalled he continued:

"Is the reason you're not married because you put career over home — ?" I said, as I would to a friendly psychiatrist, that I had always wanted children but that my life had not worked out that way. In my interview, I had no time to reflect how, in his role of personnel manager, he appraised my being single or married, in or out of love, or having a sad or happy disposition.

"How fast" the president next asked, "can you pack a bag?" This sent Okamoto, the White House photographer, into guffaws of laughter, and even the president, pleased by my perplexity, also roared in laughter.

Suddenly, as I strained in suspense about what other standards he might apply, I heard myself raised to the level of the Very Important Person.

"Do you have a little time — ?" he asked solicitously. The interview had been going on about an hour already.

We walked to the presidential Oval Office, where President Johnson strode to a large mahogany desk brought with him from the Senate.

"Stand here by me," the president said as he picked up a sheaf of letters for his signature. He showed me long paragraphs and

stilted sentences. He had refused to sign them because they were not written in simple language.

I waited to be dismissed. Then, "I'm going to take you over to the mansion."

As I started walking, his cross examination continued:

"You're a little overweight, aren't you?"

"No, I don't think I'm overweight," I told him. (I stand five feet, three inches, and had just returned from a reporter's assignment in Vietnam where I shed 10 pounds, down from 128 to 118). I said I was healthy and that I felt good and thought myself "just right."

We passed the French glass doors leading to the Rose Garden, where so many hail-and-farewell ceremonies have been held for chiefs of state and other visitors.

Taking the elevator up to the mansion, the president (1) checked his receding hairline in a small wall mirror (2) combed his hair. (3) winked at me and (4) told the operator, "I'm going over to show Mrs. Johnson what I picked up!"

Stepping off the elevator, we walked to a room where we encountered the first lady, in a turquoise shift, along with an Uriah Heep type artist. A portrait of LBJ's father stood on an easel. The artist nervously hoped the president liked his work. "Can you flatten his hair?" the president asked. The artist agreed to try. Meanwhile taking me by the hand, he stalked out toward Luc's room. I pried my hand loose and went back to tell Mrs. Johnson goodbye, and the president waited. In a corridor he stopped to point to a photograph of him with John Connally: "This is me with the governor," he said, making the governor sound more prestigious than the president, as indeed some die-hard Texans are still prepared to believe is true.

Leaving Luc's room, we returned to the elevator. The president again inspected his receding hairline, recombed his hair, and we walked toward the West Wing office. He slowed, seemingly deep in thought.

"Have you seen the swimming pool?" I said I had already seen it.

We walked back to his Oval office, passing along the outside walk, by the rose garden. He took in the fresh air and noted the bright, lovely, almost painfully beautiful day. "I could not sleep. Up until 3 a.m. — Counting the dead," he said, referring to Vietnam. The then Undersecretary of State George Ball waited by the Oval office. "Do you know Grace Halsell?" the president asked. Ball gave me a bright, friendly smile.

"Now," the president told me, "you go home...and...wait. You will get a message." Again getting up close, and eyeball to eyeball, the president indicated that his decision, made in his role of personnel manager, had been made, that he and I knew what this decision was, and he informed me not so much by his words as by the look in his eye and his firm handshake.

So, I was "called" — and started to work a couple of weeks later. And stayed, as White House staff writer, for three years.

The prediction of the historian, James McGregor Burns, — that President Johnson will win high marks in history for his appointments — may have some validity. I leave experts on personnel any judgment on his interviewing techniques.



Lyndon B. Johnson





## PRE-QUALIFICATION ANNOUNCEMENT

The Royal Saudi Naval Forces (RSNF) offer a tender among companies for the Institute of Naval Technical Studies in Dammam. Tender includes a basic skill training for RSNF recruits personnel and English Language teaching. Therefore, all establishments and companies having experience and willing to participate in the tender should expedite the necessary documents which contain at least the following information:

1. A copy of establishment or company's commercial register including:
  - a. Authorized specialization which is applicable for training.
  - b. Capital.
  - c. Owner.
2. Statement of previous experiences and works in and outside the Kingdom, e.g. project's name, location, contract's value and name of the client, as well as starting and completion dates.
3. Statement of the proposed teachers contains their qualifications and nationalities.
4. Balance sheet of the last 2 years.

The National Establishment or company which is a partner or an agent of one of the international companies should mention date of agency or partnership in addition to the works have been accomplished in the Kingdom. The above mentioned documents should be attached as well as a certificate of merit from governmental authorities.

NOTE: RSNF has a unified forms for all applicants willing to submit their documents accordingly.

Applicant's documents should be sent by mail or by hand no later than 2 April, 1983 to:

RSNF Headquarters  
Naval Supply Department  
Local Procurement Branch  
3rd Floor - Office No. 357  
P.O. Box 22463 -- Riyadh: 11495

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مركزنا في الرياض



## In Third World

## Fostering self-reliance to be EEC aid objective

BRUSSELS, March 25 (R) — The European Commission, in a break with traditional development assistance, has outlined radical plans for a new long-term aid program designed to increase self-reliance in poor countries.

"It is not a question of projects but

## Rejects charges of protectionism

BANGKOK, March 25 (AFP) — The European Economic Community (EEC) has rejected charges of protectionism by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and called for better coordination between the two biggest non-Communist trading blocs.

The charges came at the start of a two-day dialogue between foreign ministers of the five-member ASEAN and the 10-nation EEC, their fourth meeting in a series that began in 1978.

Wilhelm Haferkamp, vice president of the Brussels-based European Commission, the EEC executive body, said he was "not at all happy to see the European Community being accused of what is broadly termed its protectionist stance".

He appeared to be replying to Foreign Minister Sithi Sawetasil of Thailand, who spoke on behalf of ASEAN at the opening.

## Caracas seeks debt moratorium

CARACAS, March 25 (AFP) — Venezuela has asked for a 90-day delay in the payment of short-term foreign debts totalling between \$4 billion and \$5 billion informed sources have said here.

Venezuela's total short-term debts of \$10 billion are currently being renegotiated by Finance Minister Arturo Sosa, who visited New York last week for talks with leading international banks.

The moratorium request does not involve such debts as those guaranteed by international bodies like the International Development Bank, or those carrying floating interest rates.

Venezuela's total foreign debt amount officially to \$20 billion, but government sources put it at more than \$34 billion — around 10 percent of the \$300 billion total owed by Latin American countries.

Currency reserves dropped from \$20.1 billion in January 1982 to \$8.6 billion at the end of last month. They have fallen \$6 billion over the last six months.

## Egypt gets \$122m loan from Japan

TOKYO, March 25 (R) — Japan is lending Egypt 29.1 billion yen (\$122 million) to help finance water supply, irrigation and electric power projects, the foreign ministry has said.

The two countries exchanged documents in Cairo Wednesday on the new credit as well as grant aid of 1.7 billion yen (\$7 million) the ministry said.

The latest credit will bring Japan's low-interest yen credits to Egypt to 231.8 billion yen (\$974 million) since 1973, it said.

The latest loan will be repayable over 30 years, including a 10-year grace period, with interest of 3.5 percent annually, the ministry said. The grant aid will be used to finance a farm machinery leasing plan and a university radiation research project.

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Reserves fall from \$30b to \$4b  
Iraq's war-ravaged economy gasping for breath

BAGHDAD, March 25 (AP) — Foreign workers have begun to stream out of Iraq after a construction boom fizzled because of the war with Iran and falling oil prices, Western diplomats say.

At the height of the boom last summer, there were more than two million foreign workers who made up more than half of the nation's labor force and 1.5 million Egyptians alone accounted for nearly 10 percent of the total population.

These workers sent home about \$3 billion to \$4 billion annually in remittances and symbolized President Saddam Hussein's policy of pressing ahead with development in spite of the war.

Now, the departure lounge of Baghdad Airport is crowded with Pakistanis in traditional baggy pants and Egyptians in "galabiya" robes. There are few new arrivals to replace them.

"The number of foreign workers has been dropping sharply," said one Western diplomat, who said precise figures on the decline were not available.

One hotel worker from the Philippines said under a new regulation that took effect last December, the government cut back the hard currency portion of his salary from 75 percent to 60 percent. "It is now taking more than a month to transfer even this and it's causing hardship for my family back home," said the worker, who declined use of his name for fear of losing his job.

Iraqi dinars are worth \$3.2 at the official rate, but outside Iraq and on the black market they are worth only about half that amount.

In a further sign of the economic pinch, the government has let no new contracts, delayed payments for work already completed, failed to publish the national budget for 1983, and reduced the amount of currency foreign workers can take out of the country.

"Some contractors have gone six to eight months without being paid," said a diplomat who refused to be identified by name. One

Asian country with \$4 billion worth of business in Iraq is owed nearly half the total, he said.

"Iraq has always been a cash-and-carry country with a reputation for paying off on time," said the diplomat. "Now there are delays, but there has been no case in which Iraq has flat out refused to pay on time."

Before the war with Iran began Sept. 22, 1980, Iraq had \$35 billion in reserves built up from the sale of its oil. Despite nearly \$20 billion in aid from neighboring Arab oil states worried about Iranian expansion, the reserves now total about \$4 billion, diplomats say.

Perhaps the biggest blow was Syria's decision to close its borders with Iraq in February 1982, thereby cutting off the flow of 400,000 barrels of oil a day through the Iraqi pipeline to the Mediterranean.

Iraq's main source of income is from oil through a pipeline that runs through Turkey, carrying about 700,000 to 800,000 barrels a day. A project to expand the Turkish line's capacity to over the million barrels daily will take about 18 months. "Even if they get the capacity of the pipe increased it may just balance the drop in prices" from \$34 to \$29 a barrel, said the diplomat.

"The Iraqis were trying to do too much. The war is costing about \$1 billion a month, oil prices have dropped and so have exports. At the same time the Arab Gulf states are tired of spending money to build conference places here," said another diplomat.

Hussein's government has built new hotels, monuments and public buildings such as the grandiose conference palace to play host to the nonaligned summit which has moved to New Delhi.

Street lights along the four-lane highway to the airport are turned off at night to save electricity, hotel rooms have signs urging guests to conserve power and Iraqis are banned from traveling abroad except for official business, study or medical treatment.

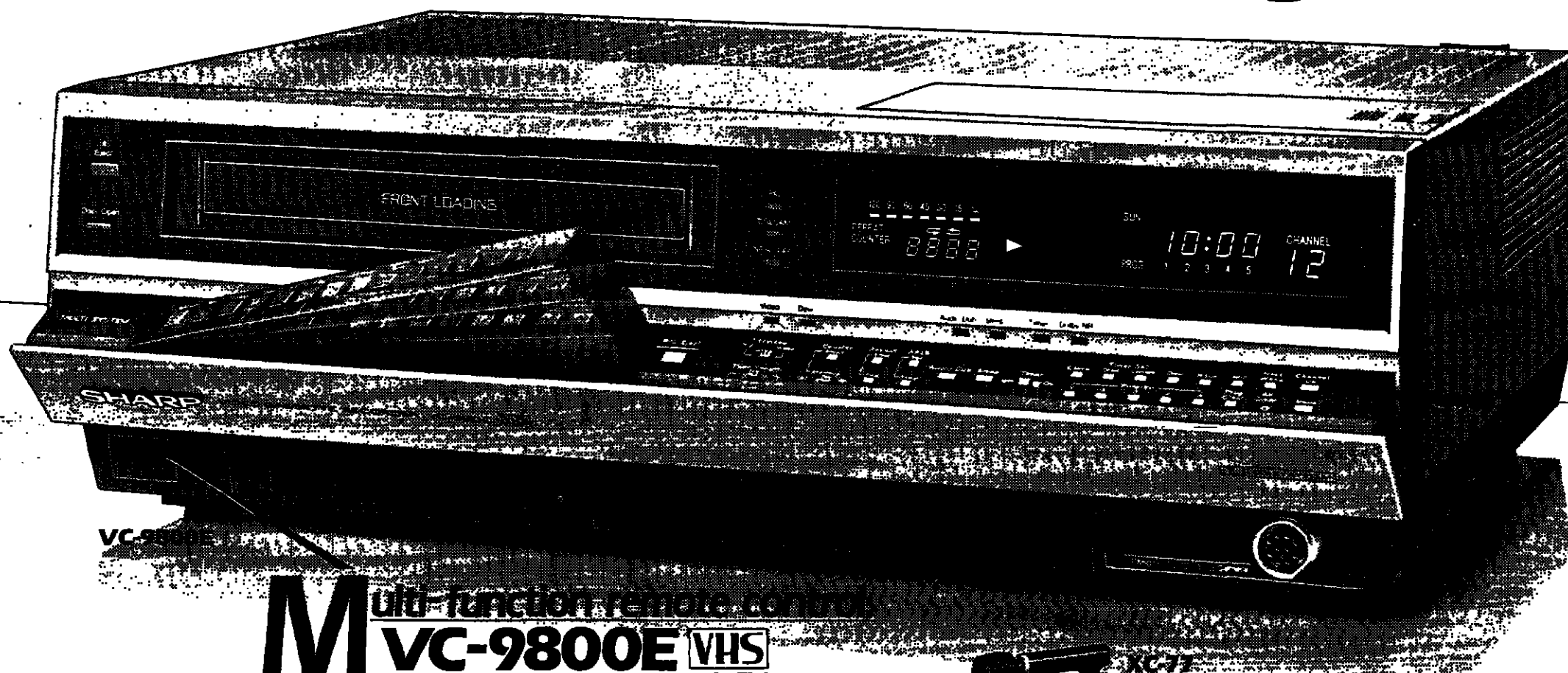
## U.K. trade deficit dips to \$203m

LONDON, March 25 (AP) — Britain's foreign trade deficit declined last month from January's 491 million pounds (\$721.7 million) to 138 millions (\$203 million), the Department of Trade announced on Thursday.

A profit on such "invisible earnings" like banking, insurance and freight of 180 million pounds (\$265 million), however, gave the country a current account surplus of 42 million pounds (\$61.7 million), compared with a deficit of 311 million pounds (\$457.2 million) in January, the department said.

Exports last month rose to 4.9 billion pounds (\$7.2 billion) from 4.6 billions (\$6.8 billion) in January, while imports fell sharply in February to 5 billion pounds (\$7.4 billion) from 6 billions (\$8.8 billion) the month before.

London's financial observers were disappointed, however, because the January deficit had been considered an aberration after strong surpluses in November and December. A recovery in trade into surplus had been widely predicted before the announcement.

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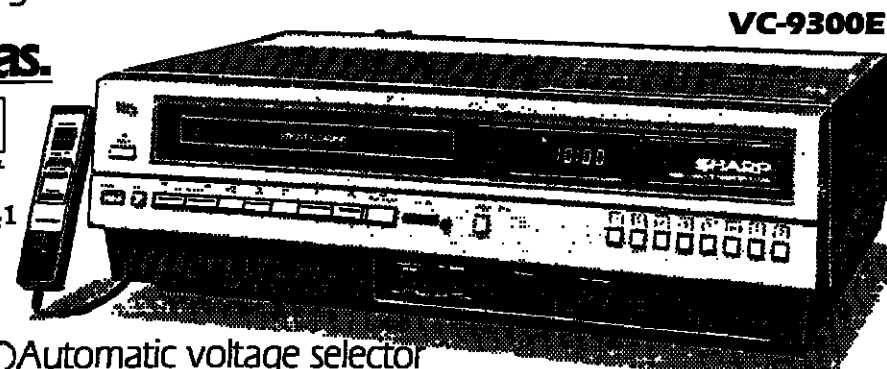
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By ITC study team

## Safeguards for U.S. steel urged

WASHINGTON, March 25 (Agencies)—The International Trade Commission (ITC) has ruled that European and Japanese exports of special steels were damaging the American steel industry, and said it would ask President Ronald Reagan to impose safeguard measures.

ITC recommendations will be published only at the end of April, after hearings at which other testimony is to be represented. But an ITC spokesman said the commission had already judged the steels imported from

Japan, France, West Germany, Spain and Sweden to be detrimental to U.S. production.

The American special steels industry comprises 17 companies totaling 60,000 workers, on whom approximately 30 percent are out of work. According to a spokesman, the industry asked in December 1981 for the imposition of quotas, compensatory rights and federal help to promote exports to several countries with protected markets.

The spokesman urged quick action by

## Regan predicts sunny days

WASHINGTON, March 25 (R) — U.S. Treasury Secretary Donald Regan has predicted brighter economic days ahead for most of the industrial powers, but said France must conquer its inflation problem to keep the franc from tumbling further.

"I happen to think that the OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) will probably raise their ideas of what's going to happen to the world recovery," Regan said. The OECD has predicted that the global economy will expand by 1.5 percent this year, after discounting the effects of inflation. But in a wide-ranging interview with the managing director of Reuters, Glen Renfrew, Regan said he expected the OECD to raise its forecasts for the world recovery to 2.5 percent.

He said the United States, Britain, Japan and West Germany would all "be in the plus column" this year as far as economic growth was concerned. "Now, if we are all going one way as the major industrial powers, we can-

not have France going the other way without having reverberations in the currency (the French franc)," he said.

"They (the Mitterrand government) have to get their inflation down or their currency is going to continue to be weak," Regan added during the interview.

In a televised speech to the French people Thursday, President Mitterrand said he would not turn his back on the Western allies and their demands for more coordinated economic policy among the industrial countries.

But at the same time Mitterrand urged the French people to buy more French goods, work harder and save more. On another subject, Regan said he thought the worst of the international debt crunch was over. "We are past the crisis stage," he said.

But Regan said that slumping world oil prices would hurt several developing countries

Reagan, and pointed out that since December 1981, two companies have had to shut down. The ITC study deals with imports of laminated special steels in strip, bar and wire forms. These products are not covered by the limitation agreement on carbon steel imports signed by the United States and the EEC in the fall of 1982.

Meanwhile, in Bonn, major firms, trade union leaders and government ministers failed in urgent talks Thursday to agree on an overall plan for reshaping West Germany's troubled steel industry. Economics Minister Otto Lambsdorff, who presided over the talks, announced partial success saying that plans to link the two biggest West German steelmakers, Thyssen and Krupp, were near completion.

## Ethiopia orders 2 ships from U.K.

LONDON, March 25 (R) — Ethiopia has ordered two cargo ships from a British yard, the first time it has asked Britain to build vessels, the state-owned British shipbuilders group announced Thursday.

The \$36 million order follows a group announcement last week that 9,000 jobs in the industry were at risk because of a lack of orders.

The group's subsidiary, Austin and Pickersill, said the contract from Ethiopia Shipping Lines of Addis Ababa was won after nine months of negotiations against strong worldwide competition. The 10,500-ton ships are due for delivery in the second half of 1984.

## BRIEFS

means they alone would surpass that figure in about 50 years.

ROME (R) — World trade in rice is expected to rise three percent this year to 11.5 million tons, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) said Thursday.

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA, Spain (AFP) — Twenty miners who barricaded themselves in a mine near here Wednesday were threatening Thursday night to blow up the mine shafts if salary demands were not met by next Monday, reliable sources here said.

TOKYO (AFP) — Apartments with gold door knobs and costing up to \$4.25 million each will soon go on sale in the residential area of Minato-Ku in central Tokyo. The six-story "Dorms Moto-Azabu" building with 33 apartments will be completed by June. The accommodation, possibly the most expensive in the world, will have outside walls of "Pompeii bricks" and will be decorated inside with mahogany.

WARSAW (R) — New Agriculture Minister Stanislaw Zieba Thursday took over one of Poland's hardest jobs after an unprecedented parliamentary show of opposition to his appointment. He faces the daunting task of maintaining and improving tight food supplies in the face of declining stocks of animals for slaughter and stubborn resistance by peasants to delivering grain to the state.

## Final talks on tin pact set Monday

KUALA LUMPUR, March 25 (R) — Ministers of the world's major tin exporting countries meet in London on Monday to make what could be a final attempt to agree on a producers' pact.

Malaysia, the world's largest producer, first mooted formation of an Association of Tin Producing Countries (ATPC) early last year but it has been held up because of big differences with neighboring Indonesia. The two countries, along with Australia, Bolivia, Nigeria, Thailand and Zaire, agreed in Lagos last December to set up the association.

The seven account for about 85 percent of the world's tin production and are just beginning to recover from low tin prices in the past year caused by glutted market. Technical experts from these countries last month worked out a draft text at a meeting in London which will be discussed at the two-day ministerial meeting, beginning Monday.

Malaysian Primary Industries Minister Datuk Paul Leong said at a news conference in Brussels Friday that differences over details of the pact had narrowed considerably but declined to say whether Malaysia would compromise on any of the points.

## Brazil's inflation may exceed 110%

RIO DE JANEIRO, March 25 (AFP) — Inflation in Brazil will total more than 110 percent this year, according to estimates given to AFP by banking circles.

A target of 70 percent inflation had first been set by Brazilian officials who have had to seek help from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in coping with Brazil's external debts. Brazil is the most indebted country in the world, owing \$87 billion compared with \$85 billion owed by Mexico for example.

At the end of February, the official inflation forecast was adjusted upward following devaluation of the cruzado. The new target was set at 90 percent, compared with 99.7 percent in 1982.

However, banking circles expect the inflation rate will total at least 110 percent during the 12-month period.

Companies are more inclined to borrow abroad in dollars if the exchange risks of repayment are reduced.

## Dollar improves, gold eases

LONDON, March 25 (AP) — The U.S. dollar made gains against key European currencies in early trading Friday, pushing the weakened British pound down to near its record trading low of \$1.4565. Gold prices eased.

The American currency, which dipped Monday, was boosted as seesawing U.S. interest rates rose, making the dollar more attractive to investors. The pound, depressed by the dollar's strength and uncertainty over oil prices, opened in London at \$1.4585 and hovered in moderate trading just above Thursday's all-time trading low. It cost \$1.46975 to buy one pound late Thursday.

The German mark, valued upward by 5 percent in Monday's European Monetary System realignment, remained weak. The Dutch guilder, which is also normally one of Europe's stronger currencies, also softened while the more vulnerable French and Belgian francs traded at the upper limits of their new value range. Both francs were devalued Monday.

Despite the role reversal sparked by the

realignment of the eight EMS currencies, dealers expect the mark and the guilder to strengthen once the money markets stabilize following the realignment.

In Tokyo earlier, the dollar closed at 237.35 yen, down from Thursday's late rate of 238.40 yen. It was the third straight day the dollar has eased there.

Other European rates compared to Thursday's late levels:

7.2565 French francs, up from 7.2270  
2.4225 German marks, up from 2.4115  
2.0682 Swiss francs, slightly up from 2.0645  
1.440.50 Italian lire, up from 1,439.75  
2.7155 Dutch guilders, up from 2.7060  
1.22655 Canadian dollars, slightly down from 1.22725.

The following are the closing gold prices in U.S. dollars per troy ounce:

London 412.50  
Paris 411.70  
Frankfurt 413.83  
Zurich 411.75  
Hong Kong 414.61

## Yugoslavia to import 20% more oil from Soviet Union

BELGRADE, March 25 (R) — Yugoslavia will import 5.35 million tons of Soviet oil and oil products this year, about 20 percent more than in 1982, according to an agreement signed during the current visit by Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov to Belgrade.

The agreement, part of the 1981-1985 bilateral economic cooperation program, was signed Wednesday night in Belgrade, officials said Thursday. It provides for Yugoslav imports of 4.8 million tons of Soviet crude and 550,000 tons of oil products — more than half of the 10 million tons of oil Yugoslavia plans to import this year.

The oil imports, worth about \$1.5 billion, would be paid for by exports to the Soviet Union of Yugoslav-made goods, the officials said. An agreement for the import of an additional one million tons of Soviet crude was expected to be signed later this year.

The Soviet Union is Yugoslavia's main trading partner ahead of West Germany and Italy. Bilateral trade will reach \$7 billion this year, the same as in 1982, Tikhonov and Yugoslav Prime Minister Milka Planinc said during their talks. They agreed to sign a declaration setting out guidelines for

economic ties until 1990 and identifying fields in which it could be improved.

Yugoslavia, which has serious economic difficulties including foreign debts of nearly \$20 billion, stagnating industrial production and an energy crisis, pays close attention to its trade and economic relations with Moscow. Its exports to the Soviet Union include electrical and mining equipment, ships, car spares, metals, equipment for nuclear power plants, furniture, consumer goods and food.

Apart from oil, natural gas and cooking coal, Yugoslav imports from the Soviet Union include chemical products, machinery, iron ore and timber.

## Philips renews call for tie-up against Japan

EINDHOVEN, The Netherlands, March 25 (AFP) — The Dutch Philips electronics group Friday renewed its call for European cooperation to beat Japanese competition in the market for consumer electrical goods.

The appeal came during publication of the annual report which recorded a 21 percent increase in profits last year to about \$117 million.

### Foreign Exchange Rates

Quoted at 5:00 p.m. Thursday

	Cash	Transfer
Bahraini Dinar	9.20	9.10
Bangladesh Taka	14.21	14.03
Belgian Franc (1,000)	74.00	71.83
Canadian Dollar		2.82
Deutsche Mark (100)	143.25	142.85
Dutch Guilder (100)	128.50	127.51
Egyptian Pound	3.06	3.02
Emirati Dirham (100)	93.25	94.60
French Franc (100)	48.00	47.75
Greek Drachma (1,000)	38.00	41.50
Indian Rupee (100)		34.53
Iranian Rial (100)		
Irqi Dinar	5.80	
Italian Lira (10,000)	24.04	24.00
Japanese Yen (1,000)	15.30	14.24
Jordanian Dinar	9.70	9.58
Kuwaiti Dinar	11.83	11.79
Lebanese Lira (100)	84.25	84.00
Maroccan Dirham (100)	51.00	52.86
Pakistani Rupee (100)	26.10	26.58
Philippines Peso (100)		36.10
Pound Sterling	5.08	5.05
Qatari Riyal (100)	94.25	94.60
Singapore Dollar (100)		164.85
Spanish Peseta (1,000)		25.50
Swiss Franc (100)	167.50	166.70
Syrian Lira (100)	60.00	61.60
Turkish Lira (1,000)		
U.S. Dollar	3.45	3.44
Yemeni Rial (100)	75.15	75.10

The above cash and transfer rates are supplied by Al-Rajhi Company for Currency Exchange & Commerce, Gabel St., Tel. 6441000, Jeddah.

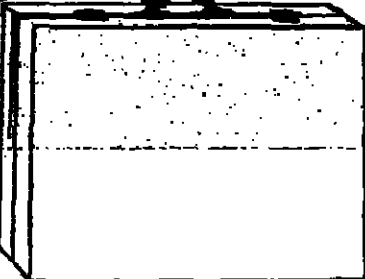
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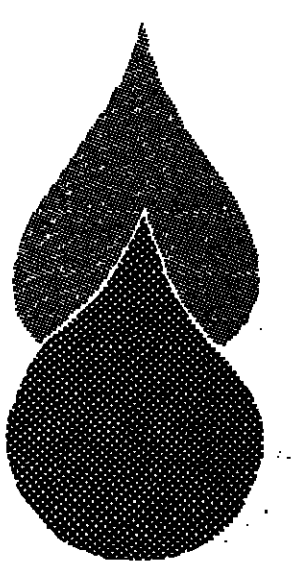
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# Molecular biology holds promise of conquering cancer

SAN DIEGO (R) — While cancer is being treated with everything from radiation and surgery to drugs and diet, molecular biology appears to hold the real promise of conquering the killer disease, according to a group of scientists who met here this week.

Science writers at a four-day seminar sponsored by the American Cancer Society heard doctors and scientists report on how the latest techniques in genetic engineering are being used to try to unravel the mysteries of cancer. The Cancer Society estimates that 440,000 Americans will die of cancer this year — a rate that has climbed steadily in recent years despite medical advances.

The key to eliminating cancer appears to be in understanding how apparently normal body cells start growing uncontrollably, turning into deadly tumors. Scientists know that human cells contain at least 15 genes, called oncogenes, which initiate or help promote cancerous cell growth. Recently developed gene-splicing techniques have enabled researchers to analyze the chemical composition of these oncogenes, but why and how they function is a mystery.

Other researchers are using genetic engineering techniques to create highly purified substances called monoclonal antibodies, which are tailor-made to seek out cancer cells. These antibodies, coupled with radioactive "tracers," can be used to look for specific cancers in the body — offering hope for early detection and monitoring of tumor development and spread.

It is also hoped these cancer-specific antibodies can be linked with anti-cancer drugs which will be delivered directly to the tumor and bypass normal cells. Drugs used along with other forms of therapy, such as radiation and surgery, are making a significant impact on many forms of cancer. Others are being used to prevent metastasis, the spread of cancerous cells to other parts of the body. Superconducting magnets are even being used on an experimental basis to diagnose and treat some forms of cancer.

One scientist described this week how he injects metallic particles (like those on audio tape) into a cancerous organ and then "excites" the particles with a very large magnet. The fluctuating magnetic field causes the particles to vibrate and heat up, applying controlled, localized heat to the tumor, killing it but not the surrounding tissue.

One of the more promising advances in

diagnosis, however, is using chemical "markers" — tumor-produced substances appearing in the blood which can show the presence of specific cancers.

In another development, scientists report that birth control pills do not cause breast cancer and may even protect women from cancer of the ovary and womb. The findings, published in *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, released Friday, are not new but the first to be based on a large-scale study of the U.S. population, the *Journal* said.

Oral contraceptives, which have been in use in the U.S. for 20 years, have been associated with blood clots, high blood pressure and heart disease, and prescriptions for them carry warnings to users about possible side effects. But doubts have remained about whether the hormonal composition of the pills might also pose a cancer risk.

This week's *Journal* published three studies conducted by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, one of which concluded that "no association appears to exist between the use of oral contraceptives and breast cancer." The studies also found that use of the pill appears to lower the incidence of endometrial (womb lining) and ovarian cancers.

Dr. Barbara Hulka of the University of North Carolina said in a *Journal* editorial that the studies were significant because of their large sample size, the geographic diversity of subjects, and the inclusion of all cancer cases from each area.

The studies estimated that use of birth control pills in the United States last year prevented about 1,700 cases of ovarian cancer and 2,000 cases of endometrial cancer. The study on ovarian cancer said women who have given birth also have a lower risk of the disease. It suggested that one reason for the protective effect of the pill and pregnancy was that in both cases the ovaries are given a rest. The pill inhibits ovulation, which also stops during pregnancy.

The study of endometrial cancer said the protective effect of oral contraceptives "is consistent with the substantial evidence concerning the biologic effect of female hormones on the endometrium."

It said that the protective effect occurred in women who used combination estrogen-progestin contraceptives for at least 12 months, "and it persisted for at least 10 years after the cessation of oral contraceptive use."



## SOME LUMPS NOT BREAST CANCER

Dear Dr. Steincrohn: My doctor is an optimist. That's why his patients adore him. Even when things seem bleak, he says there's always hope everything will be better. For example, he discovered a lump in my breast a few days ago. I almost broke down in his office. I was sure it was cancer and that I'd lose my breast. He said he wasn't sure. Why not wait until all the tests come back. So I had a mammography which was negative, but still suspicious. A surgeon removed the lump and the lab report came back negative for cancer. All they had to do was completely remove the tumor. My breast was saved. My purpose in writing is to advise women who find a breast lump not to put it off. Some do because they are afraid the diagnosis will be cancer. Sometimes they may be in for a delightful surprise. —Mrs. T.

Dear Mrs. T.: To underline what you say, I'll mention a case report which appeared in the *American Journal of Radiology* by Drs. Lawrence W. Bassett and Harvey C. Cove of the University of California School of Medicine.

Their 53-year-old patient had noted a mass in her left breast for three weeks. The skin was not retracted and an aspiration needle produced no fluid. Mammography was only suggestive of cancer. The diagnosis was "suspicion for malignancy." But the tumor proved to be a benign myxolipoma. The authors said: "These tumors can produce all the signs and gross characteristics of mammary cancer

## STOP KILLING YOURSELF

Dr. Peter J. Steincrohn  
M.D., F.A.C.P.

including hardness, fixation, poorly defined outlines and inflammation and ulceration of the skin." The authors state there are no proven cases of malignancy in myxolipoma and localized surgical removal provides adequate treatment. Other conditions that mimic breast cancer are fat necrosis, certain types of mastitis and gland hardening. It's evident, once a lump has been discovered, early diagnosis is essential, especially if it turns out to be cancer.

### MEDICALETTERS

(Replies to and from readers):

Dear Dr. Steincrohn: There are so many new theories, it's difficult to know whom to believe. A friend tells me that diabetic patients who are on high fiber diets have lower blood sugar levels. Is this true? —Mrs. R.

Dear Mrs. R.: The new theory your friend mentions has been reported recently to be effective in some diabetic patients. They had lower glucose levels after they had been placed on diets containing high fiber bread and an increase in fruits and vegetables. Caution: some commercially sold bran cereals contain large amounts of sugar. If you are a diabetic, Mrs. R., I suggest you do not try this high fiber diet until you discuss it with your physician.

(Tomorrow: Smokers vs smokers)

## Simple cure for hiccups

CHICAGO, Illinois (AP) — A doctor is offering "an almost 100 percent successful" cure for hiccups, although he says he can only guess at the reasons for its effectiveness.

"Hiccups are a common and annoying symptom for which many remedies have been tried without consistent success," writes Dr. Steven Goldsmith of Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, Massachusetts. His letter was published in the March 25 edition of *The Journal of the American Medical Association*.

Among the purported cures are scaring the hiccups away, sipping water from a glass without breathing and taking a spoonful of sugar.

Doctors have reported that using a plastic or rubber suction catheter to stimulate the nasopharynx — the upper part of the pharynx connected with the nasal passages — got results in 84 out of 85 patients.

But Goldsmith says he has had success with a simpler procedure in which a cotton swab is used to massage the soft palate for about a minute at its center point, just behind the spot where the soft and hard palates meet on the roof of the mouth.

"Without exception, the hiccups have stopped" in the dozen or so sufferers on which the procedure has been used, he says.

Hiccups involve an involuntary spasmodic contraction of the diaphragm, which causes an intake of breath that is stopped abruptly by the sudden closure of the glottis — the vocal apparatus of the larynx causing the symptom's characteristic sound.

## German help to 3rd World

HEIDELBERG (DAD) — Heidelberg University is trying to help improve the standard of medical care in developing countries. It has changed its medical training course so students from Third World countries will be able to get a thorough training in specialist areas such as tropical diseases. This would normally be a matter for advanced tuition.

The course can also involve practical work in the student's home country. It is also intended that German students be offered the chance to spend a working year in a developing country.

In many Third World countries, there is a shortage of medical equipment and trained people, above all doctors and those in the caring professions.

In addition, there is a temptation for students from developing lands to put their newly acquired skills to use not where they are most needed — that is at home — but in Germany or another developed country. So Heidelberg's plan is to tailor the courses to Third World needs with the intention of making sure that the student goes back home to practice.

## Highest quality more precious than gold

# Corals win many laurels for Taiwan

TAIPEI — Coral does not have the sparkle of diamond, or the deep luster of gold. But its rich color, smooth surface and pure appearance have given it a special value, and the highest quality coral is in fact more precious than gold. Today, Taiwan is the world's largest producer of coral, even though most of its products find their way into overseas markets.

Perhaps the most valuable piece of coral ever found was brought in from waters off Kueishan Island in Nan county in northern Taiwan in 1980. Nearly 125 cm. in height and weighing 70.5 kilograms, it is believed to be the largest piece gathered so far. Since it is estimated that coral adds a kilogram in weight every 300 years, the piece must be about 21,000 years old.

Bidding was fiercely competitive, with merchants from Japan and Italy joining those from within Taiwan. In the end, the Hai Shan Coral Co. won the bidding with an offer of \$175,000 and put the piece on display in its Taipei showroom.

The first record of coral being regarded as precious dates back 1,700 years, when a Mediterranean merchant ship became stuck on the rocks. An investigation showed that a beautiful rock tree was causing the trouble, and when the boat was freed without mishap, the coral was regarded as an auspicious substance and a symbol of peace and contentment.

In Korea and Japan, coral has traditionally been used to ward off evil, and is regarded as an essential adornment at weddings. Arab warriors wore it during prayers, and even today, coral is buried with the dead in Nigeria, where it is regarded as a symbol of wealth.

In China, coral has traditionally been regarded as one of the seven treasures, and its use is documented in the *Liang Shou Classic* and the *Diamond Sutra*. Coral was bestowed by the emperor on ministers and members of noble families as a sign of imperial favor, and was brought as a tribute by visitors from the south. Wearing coral was said to keep away the cold, and assure plentiful descendants and a peaceful home. On a more mundane level, coral dust was used to curb children's misbehavior, and even stop a nosebleed.

Over the past 1,000 years, most coral has been discovered in latitudes between 20 degrees and 40 degrees, and Italy, Japan and Taiwan have become the major producers. White coral is generally found in waters from



SHINE: Coral pieces are carved into different shapes, a process which lends them an extra shine. Below: This little girl is no coral merchant. Still she feels drawn to it because of its rich color, smooth surface and pure appearance.



PROCESSED: One of the many processed corals being exported by Taiwan.

50 to 80 meters deep, pink from 100 to 180 meters and red from 200 to 300 meters. While coral is plentiful above 1,000 meters, it is variegated in color at this depth, and therefore less valuable.

With a millennial history of production, Italy is the center of Europe's coral industry, while in Asia, Japan first started to process it 100 years ago. Coral was discovered off the coast of Taiwan in 1923, and further investigations showed it was of better quality than that found off Japan or Italy. By 1979, Taiwan had become the center of the coral industry, producing 80 percent of the world's total. But of late, Taiwan's coral industry has been facing a number of problems.

At first, there were only a few companies in the line, and profits were high. The deep red color of most of Taiwan's coral gave it a special value, and soon, there were 200 shops involved in harvesting the material. Since coral grows at the low rate of only one inch every 10 to 20 years, the resources around Taiwan were soon depleted. Ships began to venture further afield, and several were detained by overseas authorities.

Since Taiwan's coral production is declining daily, it is surprising to learn that supply outstrips demand. An official of the Fisheries Bureau explained that when the industry was established, expectations were high, and many producers entered the line. This led coral fishermen to bring in larger quantities of low-quality material, and when the recession struck, demand plummeted. All attempts at fixing prices failed because of disunity among suppliers.

A further factor inhibiting progress has been the low-quality processing techniques used by producers. Apprentice carvers were mostly content to follow the designs shown them by their teachers, and innovation was almost absent. Goods were mostly sold raw or semi-processed to buyers in Japan and Italy, where profits are limited. The Italians, on the other hand, have improved their finishing techniques to bring coral processing to the level of an art form. Schools founded in Italy long ago still exist today, and they set standards of selection, design, mounting, aesthetics, display and pricing.

Coral merchants in Taiwan are now alert to the outside threat, however, and have been taking advice from the Fisheries Bureau. They have started to form an organization to set prices and draw up contracts with buyers, and are sharing experiences and skills. They have also reduced the size of the coral fleets to reduce competition at home.

In particular, a research association has been formed jointly by the fishermen and the government to study ways to raise the price of coral and preserve what limited reserves are still left on the ocean floor. The association periodically issues reports for distribution to merchants.

Today, Taiwan's coral industry is in skilled and experienced hands, and a new approach has been adopted to professional management and improved quality. This should allow the industry to overcome its present hardships, and consolidate its position as the world's leader.

(Courtesy: Sinorama)

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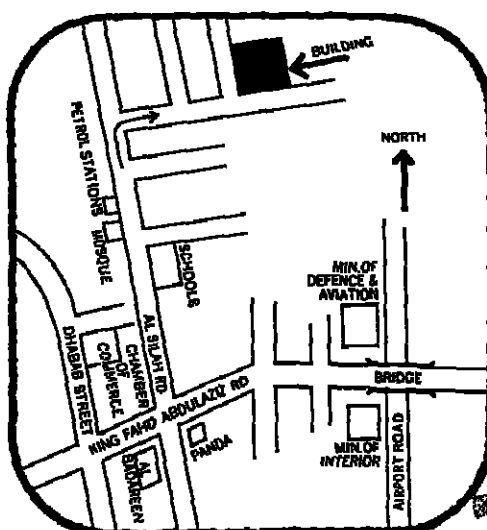
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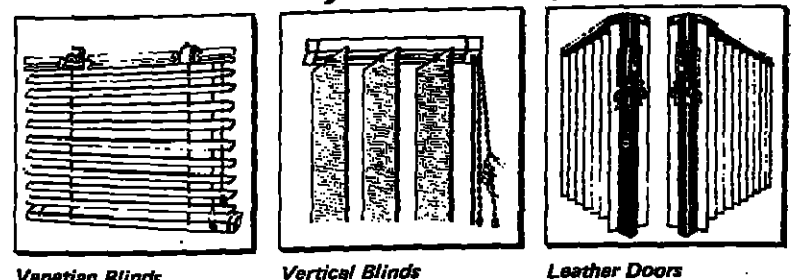
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1130 Animal, Vegetable or			
Mineral?			
<b>AFTERNOON TRANSMISSION</b>			
1200 World News			
1209 British Press Review			
1215 The World Today			
1245 Financial News			
1300 Look Ahead			
1315 Science in Action			
1245 What's New			
0130 World News			
0200 World News			
0209 News about Britain			
0230 World News			
0239 World News			
0245 Sports Round-up			
0250 World News			
0259 Letterbox			
0315 Meridian			
0330 World News			
0339 From our own Correspondents			
0400 New Ideas			
0410 Reflections			
0445 Sports Round-up			
0500 World News			
0509 Commentary			
0515 Letterbox			
0530 Meridian			
0545 World News			
0559 From our own Correspondents			
0620 New Ideas			
0630 Reflections			
0645 Sports Round-up			
0650 World News			
0659 Commentary			
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1030 Reflections			
1045 Sports Round-up			
1050 World News			
1059 Commentary			
1115 Letterbox			
1130 Book, Music and Lyrics			
1125 Saying On			
1230 People and Politics			
1245 World News			
0100 From our own Correspondents			
0130 New Ideas			
0140 Reflections			
0145 Sports Round-up			
0200 World News			
0209 Commentary			
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0720 New Ideas			
0730 Reflections			
0745 Sports Round-up			
0750 World News			
0759 Commentary			
0815 Letterbox			
0830 Meridian			
0845 World News			

# Contract Bridge ♦ B. Jay and Steve Becker

## Slam Bidding

South dealer.  
Neither side vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♦ Q J 7  
♥ Q 5  
♦ K 3  
♠ A Q 10 9 7 5

**EAST**  
♦ 8 6 5 2  
♥ 7 6 2  
♦ J 9 8 5 4 2  
♠ —

**WEST**  
♦ K 9 4  
♥ K 9 4 3  
♦ 10 6  
♠ K 8 4 3

**SOUTH**  
♦ A 10 3  
♥ A J 10 8  
♦ A Q 7  
♠ J 6 2

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	4 ♦	Pass
4 NT	Pass	6 NT	

Opening lead — ten of diamonds.

This deal occurred in a team event. At only one of the seven tables where the hand was played was the best contract

notrump, which was easily made.

The contract was certainly sound, though it was not certain. All that declarer required was a successful club finesse or, if that failed, a successful finesse in one of the major suits.

It is hard to find a rational explanation for the failure of the six other North-South pairs to reach the slam. There is a strong presumption North was the player chiefly at fault, since South had more or less told his story when he opened initially with one notrump.

Probably one contributing factor was that some of the pairs were not playing the Gerber convention for aces, and North therefore had no way of learning how many aces South had. Thus, at two tables, North raised one notrump to four, but this was merely an invitational raise in notrump, not Blackwood.

South passed, since he had only a minimum notrump bid.

Perhaps the chief factor was that the North players realiz-

of six notrump reached.

The four club bid was Gerber — it was only a coincidence that North actually had a club suit — and asked South how many aces he had.

The response of four notrump (three steps forward) showed three aces, and North thereupon bid six

ed there could not be as many as 33 high-card points in the combined hands, and they therefore chose to invite a slam rather than take a blind shot at it. Considering the promising nature of the clubs they were looking at, this was an overly cautious view to take.

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Submitted by Carl E. Reinshack, New York, N.Y.

3-26

business connections while socializing, but it's too early to talk shop. Watch extravagance.

**VIRGO**  
(Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) 


You may be romantically drawn to someone from afar. You'll have to compromise with others regarding social plans. Be agreeable.

**LIBRA**  
(Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) 


When to speak and what to say may be a problem now. Bide your time until others are ready to listen to what you have to say.

**SCORPIO**  
(Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) 


Socially, you're in the mood to touch all bases. You could overture yourself now. Don't talk business with casual acquaintances.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
(Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) 


Don't act the part of a business entrepreneur. Some career ideas may be farfetched. Be yourself to make a good impression.

**CAPRICORN**  
(Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) 

You're inclined to excess now. If you let your hair down, you may go to extremes. Remember to act in accordance with your principles.

**AQUARIUS**  
(Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) 

A business proposal voiced by a friend is not sound. Don't let the prospect of easy money cause you to forget common sense.

**PISCES**  
(Feb. 19 to Mar. 20) 

If shopping, go by yourself. A loved one could cause you to act against your better judgment. Evening should be romantic.



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DAHRAN 691-4035 / 891-9403

## Hondurans repulsed, Nicaraguans claim

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, March 25 (AP) — The Sandinista government says Honduran soldiers have entered Nicaragua to join rebel forces trying to topple the government.

The Foreign Ministry, in a statement issued Thursday night, said Nicaraguan troops battled the Honduran invaders in the Papayua valley, about 180 miles north of Managua.

The statement came a day after the Sandinista government said it was on the brink of war with Honduras. The Foreign Ministry said that after a skirmish the attack by Honduran soldiers was repulsed.

It said one Nicaraguan soldier was wounded in the fighting, but provided no casualty figures for Honduran soldiers. Nor did it say how many soldiers were involved in the fighting on each side.

The Foreign Ministry report could not be independently confirmed since no reporters are allowed into the area. There was no immediate response to the Nicaraguan claims from Honduras, but in the past it has denied such claims.

The Foreign Ministry said that Vice Minister Nora Astorga addressed a note to Honduran Foreign Minister Edgardo Paz Barrica protesting two other attacks by Honduran

soldiers on Nicaraguan soil. One attack allegedly occurred Thursday morning at the border post of Zopilote in Chinandega province, about 63 miles northwest of Managua, and the other attack took place at El Oyote, near El Espino, by a Honduran military patrol against a Nicaraguan patrol.

Earlier, the Nicaraguan government said its troops are "annihilating" rebel exiles who streamed into northwest from Honduras. But the insurgents' commander says his forces are fighting on several fronts and "the defeat of the leftist regime in Managua is sealed."

While fighting raged Thursday, the Sandinistas faced a new threat on the southern border with Costa Rica, where a separate exile faction announced plans to join the battle to overthrow Nicaragua's 44-month-old leftist government. Military sources said guardposts were reinforced on the Costa Rican frontier.

At U.N. headquarters in New York, Mexico and Cuba sided with Nicaragua in the Security Council debate Thursday on the Central American nation's charge that it was under attack by anti-Sandinista guerrillas trained by the United States. Washington repeatedly has denied such accusations.

## Nelli massacre survivors live in fear

NELLI, India, March 25 (AP) — More than a month after hundreds were massacred here in an orgy of tribal and ethnic violence, the survivors live in fear of more bloodletting.

"We are completely surrounded by enemies," Abdul Jabbar Kari, a 60-year-old villager who lost most of his family in the Feb. 18 Nelli violence, told a reporter. "If the CRP (Central Reserve Police) leave, we will all be killed."

"We were 1,000 people in our village, now we are only 350," Kari said, repeating his fears that the survivors too would be slain if the paramilitary CRP units sent into Assam state from elsewhere in India are withdrawn.

Another survivor, Altafuddin Mia, 50, asked a reporter in a trembling voice, "what is the use of rebuilding the houses? They will again burn them down and kill the few of us left... They are waiting for the chance to sweep down on us again."

"Almost everybody has been hearing threats every day," Mia continued. "They will kill us the day the Central Reserve

Police go away. They will kill us again."

Mia said his wife, six-year-old son and 18-month-old daughter were slain in the eight-hour sweep by attacking hordes through 17 villages of Nelli district. He lives in a refugee camp with the other sole family survivor, his eight-year-old son, and nurses a head injury and a wounded left hand encased in plaster.

Nand Singh, commandant of a CRP unit guarding the camps, confirmed that "the refugees beg us to stay. They say that as soon as we go, they will be killed." There are no orders for the troops to leave and government officials have said they will remain so long as Assam is a disturbed area.

The officials have estimated the one-day toll at Nelli as from 600 to 1,000 but Nelli survivors say about 2,400 died. The Assam state government says that more than 3,100 persons in the state are dead or missing since the start of February and that most of the 2,000 still listed as missing can be considered dead.

Many accounts described the Nelli massacre as an attack by native Assamese-

speaking tribespeople on Bengali-speaking settlers who have long been encroaching on their lands. Mia and other Bengali-speaking survivors interviewed, traced the trouble directly to the controversial February state elections and efforts of the Assamese native movement to disrupt the voting.

Mia, who kept repeating "they will kill us all, they will kill us all," was asked whom he meant by "they." He replied: "The Assamese, they are the killers... Our village is encircled by them. They call us Bengali foreigners. They want us to go away from here. But why should I? I was born in Assam 50 years ago."

The latest Assamese agitation flared after the breakdown of talks in January between Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's central government and the Assamese movement, which declared a boycott against mid-February state elections.

"It was all about the election," Mia said. "They (Assamese) told us not to vote. We said we will," he recalled, adding he was first in Nelli to cast his vote on Feb. 17 and as a result his house was the first set afire during the attack the next day.

## 4 MPs hold key to future of Jugnauth

PORT LOUIS, March 25 (AFP) — Four center-right members of the Mauritian Parliament could end up holding the balance of power as the ruling left is split down the middle.

Prime Minister Anerood Jugnauth, who is to name a new government Monday following the resignation last Tuesday of 11 of his ministers, is expected to be backed by only half of the 62 members of parliament from his Mauritain Militant Movement (MMM) and its junior coalition partner, the Socialist Party (PSM).

A total 31 other MMM supporters are expected to heed a call by party founder Paul Berenger, who resigned as finance minister, to go into opposition, although they will not sit with the center-right Labor and Social Democrat MPs.

The center-right members did not even win their seats through the ballot box. They were appointed under the constitution to give a voice to minorities after the left took all the seats in the general elections last June.

Government circles said that Jugnauth would choose ten new ministers from the MMM and two from the PSM. Three MMM ministers, two PSM and one from the Rodrigues People's Organization, representing the tiny island of Rodrigues, did not resign with the rest.

Since the elections, political differences have caused a series of disputes between the PSM and Berenger, who resigned last October to show his disagreement with government policies, notably in economic affairs.

Jugnauth succeeded in patching up the government after a week of negotiations, but his position as prime minister is now in dispute. Berenger and his supporters consider he has not shown enough solidarity with his own party.

Berenger is calling for a financial austerity program and economic recovery through boosting the private sector, which is demanded by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

The PSM rejects such a policy and has accused the government of giving "hand-outs" to the sugar industry, which is the island's main economic activity.

GLOBAL WEATHER			
	Min	Max	
	C	F	C F
Amsterdam	4	39	8 46 cloudy
Athens	10	50	23 73 cloudy
Bahrein	17	63	23 73 clear
Bangkok	28	82	35 95 clear
Batumi	12	54	20 68 clear
Beirut	2	36	7 45 cloudy
Brussels	-1	30	5 41 cloudy
Buenos Aires	16	61	25 77 clear
Cairo	12	54	26 79 clear
Caracas	20	68	33 91 clear
Chicago	-8	18	0 32 cloudy
Copenhagen	2	36	7 45 clear
Dublin	4	39	8 46 cloudy
Frankfurt	3	37	11 52 rain
Geneva	8	46	14 57 rain
Helsinki	0	32	2 36 rain
Hong Kong	16	61	17 63 rain
Jakarta	22	72	30 86 rain
Kuala Lumpur	24	75	34 93 rain
London	2	36	8 46 cloudy
Madrid	7	45	17 63 clear
Manila	21	70	36 97 clear
Mexico City	11	52	28 82 clear
Miami	19	66	26 79 cloudy
Montreal	-14	7	-4 25 cloudy
Moscow	0	32	4 39 clear
New Delhi	15	59	30 86 clear
New York	-3	27	5 41 cloudy
Oso	0	32	5 41 cloudy
Paris	4	39	11 52 cloudy
Peking	2	36	13 55 clear
Rio de Janeiro	14	57	27 81 cloudy
Rome	11	52	17 63 cloudy
San Francisco	7	45	14 57 cloudy
Seoul	4	39	15 59 clear
Singapore	23	77	35 95 clear
Stockholm	-5	23	4 39 cloudy
Sydney	16	61	23 73 cloudy
Taipei	15	59	18 64 rain
Tokyo	14	57	34 90 cloudy
Toronto	-11	12	-4 25 clear
Vancouver	1	34	11 52 cloudy
Vienna	5	41	16 61 cloudy

## Security talks go into recess

MADRID, March 25 (R) — The European security review conference began a three-week pause Friday to enable East and West to prepare for what is expected to be a make-or-break session next month, delegates said.

They said both sides would be consulting with their governments to decide how to respond to a compromise proposal aimed at bridging their differences on human rights and security and bringing the marathon meeting to an early end.

The outcome of the consultations was expected to determine the success or failure of the Madrid conference and with it the credibility of the 1975 Helsinki agreements that are under review here, they added. The 35-nation conference is well into its third year.

Ambassadors from the Soviet Union and France closed the proceedings Friday by promising that a compromise final document presented by the neutral and nonaligned states would be thoroughly studied during the recess.

But neither Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Kovaliov nor Gilles Curien of France, who was speaking for the West, gave any indication of how far the compromise draft would be accepted.

The document falls short of specific Western demands for improved human rights conduct in the Soviet bloc, but favors Western terms for follow-up all-European disarmament talks. Delegates said there were divisions among the West with some countries, notably Britain and the United States, anxious to press for further concessions on human rights.

Norway, West Germany and Belgium were more inclined to accept the new draft as it stood, the delegates said. But they said a joint stand would be agreed by the April 10 resumption.

## Viets said planning attack

BANGKOK, March 25 (AFP) — Vietnamese troops backed by tanks and artillery are poised to swoop on Cambodian guerrilla strongholds along the Thai border, Thai Foreign Minister Sithi Sawetasa said Friday.

Air Chief Marshal Sithi said about 4,000 Vietnamese troops were ready "at any time" to hit forces loyal to anti-Communist leader Son Sann. Prime Minister of the coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea.

Marshal Sithi spoke to a joint news conference at the end of a meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the European Economic Community. His comments dovetailed with a warning from Son Sann that a Vietnamese strike was imminent on three sprawling border encampments housing tens of thousands of displaced civilians as well as guerrilla fighters.

Son Sann, who heads the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPRLF), told a separate news conference Friday that about 6,000 Vietnamese infantry men, supported by artillery, armored personnel carriers and Soviet-built T-54 tanks, were in the vicinity.

Son Sann said elements of four divisions were already deployed 10-12 kilometers from the Thai-Cambodian frontier and awaiting reinforcements. Fresh troops would probably arrive in less than a week, and the attack could follow immediately, he said.

Western diplomats who monitor Cambodia have also reported signs that Vietnam may be preparing to strike the same three spots singled out by Son Sann. Any such attack would have to come before the end of next month, when the start of monsoon rains shifts the tactical advantage back to the guerrillas.

## Belgrade's independence affirmed

BELGRADE, March 25 (AP) — Soviet Premier Nikolai Tikhonov ended a week-long visit Friday after signing a communique affirming Yugoslavia's right to independence and "differences" on international issues.

Tikhonov and Yugoslav Prime Minister Milka Planinc also agreed to continue economic cooperation, and singled out the fields of atomic energy development, shipbuilding and machine construction.

The Soviet Union is Yugoslavia's main trading partner, with an estimated \$35 billion in trade turnover expected for the 1981-1985 period. But this nonaligned Communist country broke with the Soviet bloc in 1948, and in 1955 the late President Josip Broz Tito won an agreement with the Soviet Union guaranteeing Yugoslavia's right to go it alone in the Communist world.

The communique said Tikhonov and Mrs. Planinc had detailed talks in an atmosphere of "friendship, frankness and mutual understanding." Cooperation would continue "on

the basis of the respect of the principles of independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, equality and non-interference," the communique said.

During the visit, the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia signed an agreement for Soviet deliveries of oil and refined products amounting to 5.35 million tons in 1983, with another 1 million tons to be negotiated later.

The communique also denounced Israel and expressed support for the Palestine Liberation Organization.

## Charles, Di visit bushfire areas

COCKATOO, Australia, March 25 (AP) — Britain's Prince Charles and Princess Diana toured the bushfire-ravaged areas of Victoria state Friday, offering sympathy and support to relatives of the 72 persons who died in the blazes.

Princess Diana spoke to Gillian Marsden whose husband, William, a volunteer firefighter, died in the fires which destroyed 208 houses in the village of Cockatoo alone.

"I hope you don't mind us being here today so soon after the tragedy," Princess Diana said. "No, I think it is a great honor that you have come," Mrs. Marsden said. "Australia is a country of extremes that brings out the best in people." The princess said: "Yes, you just have to get over tragedy."

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